OHIO, KANSAS AND SOUTH DAKOTA CONVENTION NUMBER
Vol. XXXI JULY, 1918 No. 7

Of the Church · By the Church · For the Church

Luther League Review

The · Official · Organ · of the Luther · League · of America

Pull, Son—Pull with Your Dad

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Thirteenth National Convention of the Luther League of America at Buffalo, N. Y., August 27, 28, 29, 1918

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We are to fight a battle against ignorance—other people's ignorance.

The Black, Red, White, Blue and Gold is our standard—Martin Luther the standard bearer.

The army of the Luther League is to follow him in a peaceful battle. The weapon we are to carry is Truth. The ammunition is information. We have it. Every Leaguer must provide himself with a supply.

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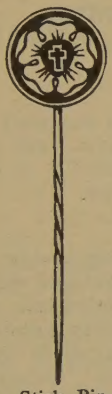

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Furnished only through the Luther League Review

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Loyalty, not only to country, but to truth and to principle.

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Let us all wear the badge which, designed from Luther's coat of arms, is emblematic of great principles that are vital to Christianity. Read its meaning as Luther explained it. His statements of its meaning accompanies every badge.

This badge is furnished in different styles at the following prices: Button, Stick Pin, or Clasp Pin, Solid Gold, $1.00; Rolled Gold, 50 cents; Gilt, 25 cents. Clasp Pin Hanger, 50 cents extra.

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ADDRESS ALL ORDERS TO

Luther League Review

318-326 West Thirty-ninth Street, New York City

Luther League

Of America

"Of the Church, By the Church, For the Church"

Official Call for the Thirteenth National Convention

Buffalo, N. Y., August 27, 28, 29, 1918

THE Executive Committee of the Luther League of America has accepted the invitation of the Buffalo District of the Luther League of New York and the Federation of Men's Bible Classes to hold the THIRTEENTH BIENNIAL CONVENTION in Buffalo, New York, August 27, 28, 29, 1918.

REPRESENTATION.

Any society of whatever name, connected with a Lutheran congregation or a Lutheran institution of learning, and District and State organizations whose admission shall have been recommended by the Committee on Credentials, are entitled to membership with representations as follows: Each society admitted to membership shall be entitled to one delegate, each District League to three delegates, and each State or Territorial organization to ten delegates. Delegates to the Convention are expected and required to present properly certified credentials. The credentials should be signed by the President and Secretary of each organization, whether State, District or Local League. Delegates will be asked to pay a REGISTRATION FEE of $1.00.

CREDENTIALS.

Credential blanks for delegates should be secured at once by State, District and Local Officers from the General Secretary. All credentials should be filled out in duplicate, one part being sent to the General Secretary and the other part retained by the delegate for presentation to the Credential Committee at Buffalo. Uniform blank forms will be sent upon request. Credentials should be sent to the General Secretary not later than August 1st.

GENERAL INFORMATION.

The arrangement of the program is in charge of a sub-committee of the Executive Committee. An announcement of same will be made in the near future in the REVIEW.

THE LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW will furnish official information each month relative to the Convention and after the Convention will publish a CONVENTION NUMBER containing full reports of the proceedings.

Subscriptions should be made now to secure the pro-Convention Number of the REVIEW and also the CONVENTION NUMBER.

Particulars as to hotels and other local arrangements will be furnished in due season by the local Convention committee.

The last Convention at Buffalo was a great one. The local committee claim that the coming one will be greater.

Arrange your vacation to include August 27, 28, 29, and spend it at Buffalo.

By direction of the Executive Committee.

C. T. A. ANDERSON,
President,
Chicago, Ill.

HARRY HODGES,
General Secretary,
838 Drexel Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.

Of the Church - By the Church - For the Church

Luther League Review

Bird's-eye View of Washington from the Union Station

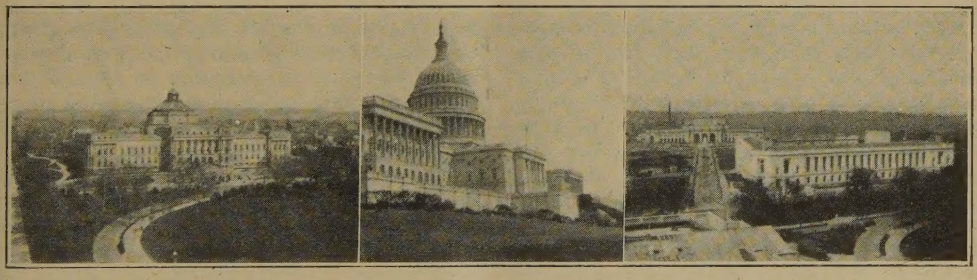
BY FRED L. SCHICKLER.

HEEDING the call of our Uncle Sam, we telegraphed our acceptance of a position in the War Department at Washington, and after bidding farewell to our friends at home, boarded the train bound for the nation's capital.

After riding many hours, we welcome the sound of grinding brakes as the train slows down, and the music of the long blast from the engine's whistle announcing our journey's end.

Alighting from the train, we follow a red capped porter through the concourse of the Union Station, seven hundred and sixty feet in length, into the general waiting room, where we are met by the friend who journeyed to Washington some four weeks before. The station itself is a mammoth structure of granite, six hundred and twenty feet long and from sixty-five to one hundred and twenty feet in height. Passing through this waiting room, where we observed the high, arched ceiling and the extreme cleanliness, we departed from the building by way of the main entrance, whose decorative features consist of six massive columns supporting the main arches. Upon the pedestals on the tops of these columns are statues eighteen feet high; those on the west side of the entrance representing Prometheus (fire), and Thales (electricity); those on the east side, Ceres (agriculture), and Archimedes (mechanics); Freedom and Imagination being depicted by central figures.

Thus standing at the portal of the capital, our eyes were greeted by a most glorious scene. The immense plaza of the station is graced by the Columbus Memorial consisting of a statue and fountain.



THE CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY. THE CAPITOL. SENATE AND HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING.

The eye traveling beyond this memorial beholds the grand and glorious Capitol Building and the Senate and House Office Buildings, in which our laws are introduced, propounded and given birth. We were then informed by our Washington friend that the Capitol covers an area of 153,122 square feet, and that the bronze statue of Armed Liberty which crowns the dome is nineteen feet six inches high and

weighs 12,985 pounds. The forty-six acre park, beautified by trees and shrubberies, forming a part of the outdoor decorations, contributes a wealth of magnificence to the stately structure. Among the innumerable interior decorations, we later learn, are exquisite historical paintings which are divided into two classes, viz., "Early Historical" and "Revolutionary." Among those included in the former class are "Landing of Columbus at San Salvador," "Discovery of the Mississippi by De Soto," and the "Baptism of Pocahontas at Jamestown"; while among those included in the latter class are "Signing the Declaration of Independence," "Surrender of Burgoyne at Saratoga," "Surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown," and "Resignation of Washington as Commander in Chief at Annapolis."

Our attention was next invited to the Congressional Library, which is the largest and most magnificent library building in the world, occupying three and three-quarter acres, upon a site of ten acres in extent, at a distance of 1,270 feet east of the Capitol. To enumerate the many magnificent features of this building would consume much time, and the three days before taking up our work at the War Department afforded a splendid opportunity to visit this intensely interesting structure.

Turning our gaze slightly to the west of the great Capitol Building, in the distance was the well known Washington Monument, a pure white shaft rising five hundred and fifty-five feet, reflecting itself in the calm Potomac River. We were told that a staircase winds its way to the top around an interior shaft of iron pillars, in which the elevator runs. Many persons, after riding up, descend by way of the stairs in order to examine more carefully the inscribed memorial blocks which are set into the wall at various places. The elevator makes a trip every half hour, requiring seven minutes to ascend to the observatory floor with its eight small windows which open through the pyramidon summit at the height of five hundred feet. Looking first toward the north, the most compact part of the city is surveyed. In the center foreground stands the Executive Mansion; on its left stands the State, War and Navy Building, to the left of which is seen the marble front of the Corcoran Art Gallery. To the right of the White House is the Treasury, and from thence the eye is led across the most solid and fashionable northwest quarter of the city to the more thinly settled hill districts, where are conspicuous the square tower of the Soldiers' Home, the lofty buildings of Howard University, and, farther to the right and more distant, the halls of the Catholic University.

The eastern outlook carries the picture around to the right, and embraces the valley of the Eastern Branch of the Potomac. In this direction the most conspicuous object is the Capitol, over the right wing of which can be seen the Congressional Library, its gilt dome flashing back the rays of the sun, and setting it out sharply against the Maryland hills. Between the Monument and the Capitol are seen the grounds and buildings of the Agricultural Department, the castellated towers of the Smithsonian Institution, the National Museum, the Army Medical Museum, the Fisheries Building, and in the far distance the Navy Yard. The military barracks can be seen, and, along the harbor branch of the Potomac, the steamboat wharves.

The view southward is a pleasant one of the Potomac, embracing the Bureau of Engraving and Printing; while the western outlook gives another view of the Potomac with a wonderful landscape of Virginia, on which side of the river the Arlington Mansion, the Arlington National Cemetery, Fort Myer and the Naval Radio Station Towers piercing the sky, stand plainly to view. When the air is clear, the eye can see and rejoice in the faint but distinct outlines of the turquoise-tinted Blue Ridge, far away in the southwest. But here our Washington friend closed his narrative concerning the Washington Monument seen in the distance and invited attention to the District Post Office, an immense structure of snowy whiteness adjacent to and directly connected with the Union Station.

The Government Printing Office, a massive red structure with its countless windows, stands out prominently among the aforementioned buildings, all of which are constructed of white marble and granite.

In the west the sun is sinking, and we are hurried by our friend into a waiting automobile and speed away to our new home.

A NEW WORLD

God's purposes may be delayed; they will not be thwarted. His kingdom will prevail. His judgment meanwhile is going on. In the future there are going to be a new world and a better civilization. Our duty is to be loyal to Him and to proclaim His truths, teaching the rising generation His principles, that it may be saved from the paganism of the present.—*Reformed Church Messenger.*

"The Liberty Bell"

BY IRENE ADELE LIGHT.

IN the early morning of July 4, 1776, could be seen an old man, dressed in Continental suit, crossing the Statehouse yard, in Philadelphia. This man was the janitor of the Statehouse, who went on his way to ring the bell which convened the Continental Congress. He took with him a little curly headed lad, who listened attentively to the earnest words of his companion. Arriving at the east room, the janitor parted from the boy, saying, "Now, mind," and then ascended the steps to the belfry. As soon as the bell sounded, groups of Congressmen representing the thirteen Colonies passed through the hall and took their seats in the congressional room of the Statehouse. Citizens were also attracted to the scene, and gathered in groups in the Statehouse yard to hear the action of Congress. The boy was stationed at the door below, with instructions to signal the bellman to ring if the Declaration passed. The hours rolled by, the crowd became impatient, but finally, as the shadows of the Statehouse lengthened, the door opened and the sergeant-at-arms stepped out and whispered to the boy, who, nodding assent, bounded up the steps two at a time, and to the bellman in the tower he shouted the message, "They've signed it! Ring! Ring! Ring!" Thrilled with emotion, the old man seized the iron tongue of the bell and hurled it backward and forward a hundred times, announcing the proclamation of liberty.

Upon the completion of the Statehouse in Philadelphia, the Assembly of Pennsylvania resolved to have a bell. In October, 1751, Isaac Norris, President of the Assembly, acted as chairman. They decided to have a bell cast in London which should weigh about 2 000 pounds and cost about five hundred dollars. An inscription was to be placed on the bell as follows: "By order of the Assembly of the Province of Pennsylvania, for the State-House in the City of Philadelphia, 1752." Underneath this sentence was to be the motto, "Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof (Lev. xxv:10)."

The bell was brought over in the ship Matilda, August, 1752, by Captain Budden, the same man who brought over the bells for Christ Church. The bell is five fect in diameter at the lip; its weight is two thousand and eighty pounds. A few days later it was hung up to try the tone, and to the mortification of the superintendents, it was cracked by a stroke of the clapper. They proposed to send it back to England, but Captain Budden could not take it at that time, so two ingenious workmen of Philadelphia undertook to recast it. On March 16, 1753, the mold was opened, and early in June, 1753, it was placed in the Statehouse tower. In the spring of 1757 the bell convened the assembly which sent Franklin to England. When George III was crowned King of England, the bell was rung to proclaim the king. Several years later, September 12, 1764, it entered upon an active career of patriotism. On that date it called the assembly together to consider the repeal of the Stamp Act, and on the 22d it announced a protest against the Sugar Act. On September 9, 1765, the bell convened the assembly which resolved to send delegates to the famous Stamp Act Congress soon to meet in New York. When the Stamp Act was repealed, March 18, 1766, the bell rang out the note of approval. On February 4, 1771, it convened the assembly which sent a warning to the king, and a petition requesting that the duty on tea be removed. Then came the notice of the closing of the port of Boston. With muffled voice the bell tolled forth its sorrow, and on June 18, 1774, the bell convened the Philadelphia patriots who promised aid, and in the winter of 1774-75 they sent 2,540 pounds in gold to the sufferers for liberty's sake. Late in the evening of the 24th of April, 1775, Paul Revere brought the news of the Battle of Lexington, and on the following day, April 25, the bell announced the opening of hostilities. On June 7, 1776, the bell summoned the Congress in which Richard Henry Lee offered his resolution for the union and independence of the colonies, and late in the afternoon of July 4 the bell announced the Declaration of Independence. On September 26, 1776, the bell called together the assembly that witnessed the ending of proprietary government. The following September the bell was removed to Allentown to prevent its falling into the hands of the British. Wher they vacated the city, the bell was brought back. On October 24, 1781, the Statehouse bell was rung at 12 o'clock noon to announce "the surrender of Lord Cornwallis to the confederate arms of the United States and France. The dramatic history of the Revolution could not, however, heroically close until the bell announced the proclamation of peace, April 16, 1783. The Liberty Bell was now most famous. It, how-

ever, no longer rang, except on special occasions. Every Fourth of July, every anniversary of Washington's birthday, on every visit of the illustrious Sons of Liberty to the City of Philadelphia, it united with the voice of the people. On July 4, 1788, it announced the establishment of the Constitution of the United States. On July 4, 1826, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams lay dead. Strange coincidence!

Just fifty years before, these patriots had signed the immortal Declaration, and the bell that had so joyously announced this act tolled their requiem. The last time its voice was heard on an Independence Day was July 4, 1831. On February 22, 1832, it rang to commemorate the centennial birthday of Washington and also tolled to announce the death of Charles Carroll, who had been the last surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence. Chief Justice Marshall died July 6, 1835. Two days later, as the funeral cortege moved slowly in the solemnity of the occasion, followed by the faltering steps of the venerable Bishop White, and while the bell was solemnly tolling, its side was suddenly rent asunder and its powerful voice broke in a half sob, and was silenced forever. Finally the bell was placed on its original timbers in the vestibule of the Statehouse, where it has been reposing up until the present date, having been on seven journeys over the continent.

In 1885 it was taken to the New Orleans Exposition. It was also taken to the Columbian Fair in 1893, the Exposition at Atlanta in 1895, the Charleston Exposition in 1902, to Boston in 1903, to the St. Louis Fair in 1904. The last trip it will ever take was the one to the Panama-Pacific Exposition in 1915.

The First Prayer in Congress

MADE BY THE REV. JACOB DUCHE.

O LORD, our Heavenly Father, high and mighty King of kings, and Lord of lords, who dost from Thy throne behold all the dwellers of the earth, and reignest with power supreme, and uncontrolled over all the kingdoms, empires, and governments, look down in mercy, we beseech Thee, on the American States, who have fled to Thee from the rod of the oppressor, and thrown themselves on Thy gracious protection, desiring to be henceforth dependent only on Thee. To Thee they have appealed for the righteousness of their cause; to Thee do they now look up for that countenance and support which Thou alone canst give. Take them, therefore, Heavenly Father, unto Thy nurturing care. Give them wisdom in council, and valor in the field. Defeat the malicious of our adversaries; convince them of the unrighteousness of their course, and if they still persist in sanguinary purposes, oh, let the voice of Thine own unerring justice, sounding in their hearts, constrain them to drop the weapons of war from their unnerved hands in the day of battle. Be Thou present, O God of wisdom, and direct the councils of this honorable assembly. Enable them to settle things on the best and surest foundations, that the scenes of blood may be speedily closed, and order, harmony and peace may be effectually restored, and truth and justice, religion and piety prevail and flourish among Thy people. Preserve the health of their bodies, and the vigor of their minds; shower down upon them and the millions they represent, such temporal blessings as Thou seest expedient for them in this world, and crown them with everlasting glory in the world to come. All this we ask in the name and through the merits of Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Saviour. Amen.

THE BIBLE SUPREME

This book contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are innumerable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practise it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's character. Here paradise is restored, heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed. Christ is its grand object, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life, will be opened in the judgment, and will be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibilities, will reward the greatest labor, and will condemn all who trifle with its sacred contents.—*Author Unknown.*

Luther League of Ohio

Twenty-third Annual Convention at Springfield, Ohio, May 7 and 8

BY ETHEL LUTZ, RECORDING SECRETARY

THE twenty-third annual convention of the Luther League of Ohio was held in the Fourth Lutheran Church, Springfield, Ohio, Rev. William E. Brown, pastor, on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 7 and 8, 1918.

First Session

The convention opened at 10:30 o'clock Tuesday a. m. with morning service led by the pastor-loci, Rev. W. E. Brown, with Rev. Newcomer, Van Wert, Ohio, assisting. The convention sermon was given by Rev. H. W. Hanshue, of Dayton, Ohio. The text of his sermon was taken from the twenty-fifth chapter of Exodus, the fortieth verse, "And look that thou make them after their pattern which was shewed thee in the mount."

Announcements followed, also appointment of a nominating committee, and session adjourned.

Second Session

The second session at 1:30 p. m. opened with a devotional service. The address of welcome was given by Grover Ilgen, President of District No. 8, and response by O. C. Rohde, State President, in which the reason was given for holding our State convention at such an early date, viz., in order that the convention body would have the privilege of visiting Wittenberg College while in session and catch the spirit manifested there.

Junior and Intermediate League Work were the topics of the afternoon. Junior Work was ably handled by Miss Brenda Mehlhouse, Norristown, Pa. The possibility of developing leaders and utilizing the talents of the children was the theme of his discussion.

Intermediate League Work, discussed by O. C. Rohde, State President, brought forth various questions relative to the relation of Junior and Intermediate Leagues.

The business session of the afternoon opened with the reading of the minutes of the 1917 State convention.

The President read his report, closing with remarks concerning his retirement from office. This report was referred to the resolutions committee.

The report of Charles E. Matthes, State treasurer, showed State balance at close of 1917 convention to be $442.60; receipts during year $192.35; expenditures $167.81, leaving balance on hand in State funds at the opening of the convention of $467.14. National dues collected during year on 1917 dues and paid to National Treasurer, $78.15. National dues for 1918, collected and on hand to date, $100.95. Jubilee offering contributed to National Treasurer during year, $182.65, making total Jubilee offering for Ohio to date $420.71. This report was received and referred to auditing committee.

A rising vote of thanks was given our State Treasurer, Mr. Matthes, for the extra effort put forth by him in collecting dues.

The report of the statistical committee showed 129 Luther Leagues in Ohio, 103 of which are very active; 3,120 Senior members in the State and 443 Junior members, or a total of 3,563 Luther Leaguers in Ohio, 431 LUTHER LEAGUES REVIEWS and 2,290 Topics taken; total local offerings for the year is $1,265.51, and $589.60 benevolent offerings. The largest district in the State is No. 1, with a membership of 657. This thorough report was accepted and placed on file.

The report of the nominating committee was submitted, but action deferred upon same until the afternoon session of the following day.

Mr. Hodges, our General Secretary, delivered to the convention in session, the sincere greetings and felicitations of the Kansas and South Dakota State Leagues.

An invitation to hold the 1919 State convention in Akron, Ohio, was extended and graciously accepted.

A motion was made and carried that Ohio subscribe for 500 copies of the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW, containing a full and detailed report of the Ohio State convention.

Mr. Hodges was given a short time to discuss our National Luther League convention to be held in Buffalo, N. Y., August 27, 28 and 29, 1918. He encouraged a large attendance at this convention.

Third Session

The Tuesday evening session of the convention was opened at 7:30, Rev. W. E. Brown conducting the opening services, after which the address of the evening was given by Rev. Paul W. Kohler, Mansfield, Ohio, on "Consecration to the Church for God and for Country."

CONSECRATION TO THE CHURCH FOR GOD AND COUNTRY.

Fellow Leaguers, I am to speak to you on Consecration to the Church for God and Country. In other words, I am to emphasize the Opportunity and Responsibility of the Church and her members in the present world crisis and to urge greater fidelity to the Church that this service may be done.

We are living in tremendous times such as the world has never seen. Nearly two million Americans are under arms. Five hundred thousand are in France and more are going every month. There is no audience in the United States which does not include those who have sons or other relatives in the Army and Navy. Seventeen nations are waging war and forty million men are in uniform. Battles have been fought not only in Europe but in Asia, Africa and South America. Northern France is in ruins. Belgium is a military prison. Every child in Poland and Serbia is said to be dead or dying. Syrians and Persians are starving. Armenians have been nearly exterminated by murder or privation. Black men in Africa have killed each other at the orders of white officers. Villages have been burned in the South Sea Islands. Canada, Australia and New Zealand have sent their sons to die in the trenches of Flanders. One hundred and twenty-five thousand Chinese are in France. Four hundred thousand men of India are on the firing line. Japan, China and Siam have declared war. The scenes of ancient wars are again the scenes of conflict. Egypt is a military camp. Mesopotamia is a battlefield. The wilderness of Sinai has once more seen marching men. The Mount of Olives and the Hill of Golgotha bristle with cannon. The streets of the Holy City resound with the tramp of armed men. Judea is seamed with trenches, and airships fly over the land where the Hebrew prophets spoke and where walked before men the Son of God.

At home men's hearts and minds have been stirred as never before. The Church has a gigantic task and a glorious opportunity in this time of world's emergency. She needs her consecrated men as never before. She has not been unassailed, however. Some think Christianity has broken down. Others want to recant Christianity and preach a new doctrine and have a new Church—as John D. Rockefeller, Jr., in his article "The Christian Church—What of Its Future?" But nevertheless, the Church is doing her part mightily and must, for the place of the world's healing is not a Parliament of Nations but the Cross of Christ. This responsibility rests upon the Church. Field Marshal Haig said, "This war will be won by 25 per cent. military and 75 per cent. of other forces, of which those represented by the Church are the greatest."

These opportunities and responsibilities relate to the Church, but as the League is the heart of the Church, particularly of her younger members, the opportunities and responsibilities are particularly ours, for we are of, by and for the Church.

These times in which we live are like a reprint of the early chapters of Isaiah. Then as now a mighty empire terrorized the world. The lesser nations lived under the menace of the black cloud of war. The prophet speaks and utters a series of oracles, each a picture.

The first represents the peoples like a sea lashed by a furious tempest. The second depicts Zion as a rock anchored amidst the storm and on the rock a beacon light. While in the third a new continent is rising out of waters about the rock.

If these words had been written today they could not portray the position of the Church—the Church is the underlying rock—the sure foundation for storm-tossed humanity.

Men in the opening days of war did not appreciate this and said the Church has failed, but they are coming to their senses. When the war opened and affairs in camps were handed over to the Y. M. C. A., men said "Here is the real thing," but they soon found need of something more.

The Church is the foundation. You cannot always see the Church, but under the Y. M. C. A., the Red Cross, etc., is the Church.

It is of the utmost importance that we realize our responsibilities and seize our opportunities.

When we come to look at them we of the League find that our horizon is threefold.

I—Our local congregation, our own church.

Here are a host of practical yet important things that we can do in these critical times:

A—We must supply by our consecration and energy the places made vacant in our League and Church. Thirty-five per cent. of the young men of the Church are in the service of our country. The Church must be maintained. The altar fires must be kept burning. It is our task.

B—We can do many things to keep the young men who have gone out to be good soldiers and true men.

C—We must help to make the home church a spiritual force and a worthier church by our own deepened and faithful living and devotion.

So much at home and abroad depends upon the kind of church members we are in our own home church. Moody said, "Church members do not have to be vessels of gold or silver, but they must be clean." This, perhaps, is one of our greatest practical responsibilities.

D—We must see to it that the home church is made loyal to the country and flag in every way. There ought to be no doubt among Christian men as to what America is fighting for in this great war, as to the great moral and spiritual ends which justify it. (1) We are fighting to put an end to war. (2) We are fighting against aggressive autocracy. (3) We are fighting against the claim of nations to be above the moral law. (4) We are fighting against the idea of power being its own law.

It is the business of the Church to keep clear and unconfused these moral ends and see to it that our congregation stands true.

II—Our second horizon is the Church. I mean the Lutheran Church. The world crisis has brought responsibilities and opportunities to our denomination which are of great concern to us as Leaguers. Per

DELEGATES AND VISITORS TO THE TWEN

ps we can best discharge this duty and use the portunity by using our best efforts to make sucssful all the work of the Church.

Who will give our men baptism and the sacraments necessary to spiritual life?

It is told of one of our camps of a company of en who were leaving that day for over the seas d of the Lutheran camp pastor calling together at a. m. all of the Lutheran boys who were leaving at day. Sixty came to the early service and reived communion before leaving. What a grand ght that must have been! Sixty young men on nded knee at the altar receiving perhaps for the st time the Sacrament of the Altar.

This responsibility to our Church is no small one.

1—To show to America that our Lutheran Church s not stood for those nationalistic and materialistic as which are in a great degree responsibile for the tions at war.

2—To give our young men not only to fight but r the ministry of Christ.

III—But our true horizon these days is as wide as manity. These are world conditions and must be viewed.

What do they bring to us of the great Luther ague of the Church of the Living God?

Everywhere dangers threaten, atheism, hero worip, spiritualism, humanitarianism, war, hate, blood, anny and anarchy. Everywhere wonderful opporunities call for the best we can give and be.

The world's crisis calls upon us to restate for our th and the benefit of humanity the program of sus as the only adequate basis for the world life d to note how these days of ours prove afresh that principles and teachings must be the foundation a better world.

The best we can do is to exalt them in their sueme significance. Let me in brief terms remind u what they are as Christ wrote them in letters light on the background of a world in need.

—A true conception of the character of God. It not enough for men to find some one whom we God. We must know God as He is. Not a r Lord, not an emblem, not a God localized as a tional God whose chief concern is the success at us of a particular nation whose battles are His ef interest. That has been Germany's mistake l will be her sorrow. We must avoid it.

God is our Father, who loves us, chastens us when do wrong and blesses us when we do right. He with America when we do right. God is Jesus rist, the Saviour of men, our best friend and rd. Not a God of hate, but of love and righteousss. We need no new Saviour. He is sufficient, for is God.

—Let the Church search her own soul in penice and confession. Why is it that the Church has ressed men as being unlike Christ? The Church been too worldly. We have not sought as we uld the Kingdom of God and His righteousness. men had they would never have been entangled the toils of these materialistic nationalisms which e organized war on earth.

It began in the days of Constantine and has not been entirely gotten rid of. We need to come in penitence before God these days. In civil war the nation came in penitence to God. God has called us in peace, in prosperity. Now He calls in war, broken homes and bodies. Let us be penitent.

Education or evolution will not free a nation or an individual from the penalty of sin, is any nation better educated than Germany? She is one of the highest products of evolution. Her attainments in art, letters, inventions are wonderful of the world. Did they keep her clean?

3—The Church must think in terms of humanity and humanity's needs. Men have been thinking in terms of individuals and of nations. Now we are coming to see the truth. "Above any nation is humanity." We must make our religion large enough to include all men and people. Read Mary Shipman Andrew's "Three Things." This means brotherhood. It means a motive of love, not hate. Enlarge the idea of humanity in war. Take our soldiers' place. But our motive must be for love of humanity and humanity's good.

4—A truer prayer life. Here is great need and opportunity of the Church. We must pray more. The following is a story told of Lord Kitchener and Lord Roberts. In the early days of the war, when the capture of Paris seemed a certainty and the advance of the German hordes was one triumphant progress, a telegram came to a place where Lord Roberts and Lord Kitchener sat, announcing that the Germans were in retreat from Paris. Lord Roberts exclaimed, "Only God Almighty could have done this!" To which Lord Kitchener added, "Somebody must have been praying." The Church praying will help wonderfully. In the days of the Civil War the Church was upon her knees. We must be more upon our knees if we wish to win this war.

5—We must exalt Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord. What men need most is Christ and the Spirit of Christ. War is destructive. Christianity is constructive. The world needs Jesus Christ as never before and will need Him. Prince Damrong of Spain said to Robert Speer, "Do not fear that we think Christianity is responsible for this war." We understand perfectly well that it is not Christianity which has failed, but the western nations, and that if people in the West had practised the precepts of Christianity there would have been no such awful struggle.

The world needs Christ and His Church. We have not been idle, but much is to be done. We must rise to our opportunity. We have called the early Church the great age of the martyrs. This is such an age. The world is ringing today as it never rang before with their challenge. Never did humanity seem so divine. Men and women who were once content to get all out of life for their own pleasure are now giving themselves for humanity. The Church is called upon to lead an age of martyrs. Can we? The Church is called to furnish the foundation for the highest service and the greatest sacrifice. Can we do it? The Church is asked to keep men true in

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faith, worthy in life and build a new age. Can we do it? Yes, resting on Christ and walking in His spirit we can.

This is the greatest day for the Church that has ever dawned and the greatest for our League.

What shall we answer to God when our day comes? Can we say in His presence, "We have done our part?"

There is the story told of a girl who had worked and lived all her life for her brothers and sisters and when the time came for her to pass into the other life she asked of them, "What shall I say to God?" Her sister said to her, "Say nothing; just show Him your hands."

"Our fathers to their graves have gone;
Their strife is past, their triumph won;
But sterner trials wait the race
Which rises in their honored place;
A moral warfare with the crime
And folly of an evil time.

"So let it be. In God's own might
We gird us for the coming fight,
And, strong in Him whose cause is ours
In conflict with unholy powers,
We grasp the weapons He has given—
The Light, and Truth and Love of Heaven."

What Mordecai said of old to Esther at a crisis in the history of the Hebrew people, God is surely saying to His Church in America: "If thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall relief and deliverance arise from another place, but thou and thy father's house shall perish; and who knoweth whether thou art not come to the kingdom for such a time as this."

Miss Dorothy Smith, of Springfield, sang "Lord, Hear My Voice." The offering of the evening was turned over to the entertaining League to apply on convention expenses. The closing vesper service concluded the evening session.

After this session a reception was held for the delegates, visitors and friends in the church parlor.

Wednesday morning the convention body attended chapel at Wittenberg College.

Fifth Session

The fifth session opened at 1:30 o'clock Wednesday with devotional service. District and local Luther League work were the topics discussed and considered. The president of each district or a representative thereof gave a report of the condition of their districts.

District No. 1.—In splendid shape. The work in this district is carried on very systematically, having set dates for their respective conventions, election of officers and planning of work in general. Considerable charity work was carried on the past year. The district comprises twelve Leagues in the city of Toledo and six outside of Toledo, with a total membership of seven hundred and twenty-five Leaguers. Two new Senior Leagues (St. Mark's, Freemont, Ohio, and one at Stricker, Ohio), and one new Junior League (Augsburg, Toledo, Ohio) applied for admission to State body.

District No. 2.—Very active, in excellent shape. This district has paid its apportionment sum of $74.45 toward the Jubilee Fund. Each month there is published in the REVIEW short items of the activities of the district, which gives the reader an opportunity to know what work is being carried on. One new Senior League (Lakewood, Ohio) and one Junior League (Akron, Ohio) reported.

District No. 3.—Dormant for present only; however, the churches having Leagues all made reports. There are three Junior Leagues in this district. Convention in near future.

District No. 4.—Not active. Report gives reasons. Meeting of No. 4 representatives called by State President.

District No. 5.—Active with exception of Lucas, for which explanation was given. No Junior or Intermediate Leagues in this district.

District No. 6.—In good shape. This district has a district delegate whose expenses are paid to carry on the work of extension. Additional activity in extension work expected in the near future.

District No. 7.—Quite active; two new Senior Leagues (St. Paul's, Greenville, and St. John's, Dayton) reported. There are still a number of churches in this district that have Christian Endeavor Societies, but it is hoped to have them changed to Luther Leagues in the near future.

District No. 8.—In good shape. Rev. Waltz, pastor at the Rockway Church, a country charge out of Springfield, has organized a Luther League in his congregation which promises to be a most successful one.

District No. 9.—Weak; delegates asked to investigate and stir up interest.

District No. 10.—In good condition. There are sixteen congregations in this district and fourteen Luther Leagues, and it is the aim of the extension committee to have a Luther League in every congregation in this district by next year. One new Senior League (Stone Creek) reported.

Total new Senior Leagues, 7; Junior Leagues, 2.

The local League presidents gave detailed reports of their respective Leagues, which was followed by discussion bringing out the following points of interest:

Leaders are needed very badly, so make up your mind to be a leader and get your League to follow you.

Officers should endeavor to interest all Junior and Intermediate members in the congregation in the League work, then there will be no trouble in starting a Senior League.

Many of the Luther Leagues are made up f young people from 14 to 18. It is their uty to try and interest the older people in eague work.

Every pastor should stand back of his uther League and every church should tand back of its League.

Visit your district and attend its conven- ions so you will get the spirit and enthusi- sm in your work so necessary to success.

There is no excuse for lack of material m the devotional topics, as we have access o our libraries and our Lutheran publica- ions can readily be obtained.

Advertise your League; tell your friends bout it. "It pays to advertise."

As to interesting the Intermediates in the enior League, keep them in the Interme- iate League as long as possible. Let them ass on to the Senior League voluntarily.

Look to the vice-president to be the next resident and continue training your aders.

Secretaries should always be present at he meetings, as the proceedings must be ecorded and they must be right.

The treasurers have a very responsible uty, which is not only of value in League ork, but also helpful in the business world.

The business of the afternoon opened ith reading of the minutes of previous essions. The nominating committee sub- itted its report. The convention passed motion that the secretary cast the ballot or the election of officers for the ensuing ear. They are as follows:

President—Grover Ilgen, Springfield.

Vice-President—C. B. Grane, Canal Dover.

Recording Secretary—Ethel Lutz, Canton.

Corresponding Secretary—Elsie Rhoades, pringfield.

Statistical Secretary—Mabel Holland, oledo.

Treasurer—Charles E. Matthes, Mans- ld.

Executive Committee—Charles Leiser, ew Comerstown, term of five years.

The report of the resolutions committee ollows:

Your Committee on Resolutions begs leave to sub- it the following report:

1. We, the Luther League of Ohio, in convention ssembled, wish first of all to make expression of ur allegiance to our country in this time of war; e, individuals from all parts of this State of Ohio, ow consecrate our services anew to our God and r God to our country, and we pledge ourselves to d and support the various causes of church and untry to the best of our ability.

2. Resolved; we heartily urge the promotion of nior and Intermediate Work and that a committee three be appointed to have charge of the Junior nd Intermediate League Work and they be author- ed to make expenditures not to exceed $100 in arrying on this work.

3. Resolved, that Marion be transferred to District No. 5. The territory of District No. 11 be transferred to District No. 7. The territory of District No. 12 be transferred to District No. 10.

4. Resolved, that an amount not to exceed $50 per year for stenographic work be expended under discretion of the State President.

5. Resolved, that our Treasurer be authorized to follow up local Leagues to pay Jubilee Fund.

6. Resolved, that the President be authorized to have printed in circular form a letter of information regarding action of this convention and copies be sent to each local League.

7. Resolved, that Mr. Harry Hodges be authorized to give greetings of this Ohio convention to all other State conventions he attends during this year.

8. Resolved, we give give a rising vote of thanks to the officers for the very efficient work performed in the last year, and the speakers and soloists who have helped to make the convention a success.

9. Resolved, we give a rising vote of thanks to the District Luther League, local Luther Leagues, congregation and pastor for the splendid manner in which we have been entertained.

C. B. GRANE,
G. ILGEN,
E. COURTER,
C. MATTHES,
Resolutions Committee.

Above report was considered item by item and adopted as a whole.

Credentials committee reported: Pastors present, 11; ex officio members, 10; district delegates, 25; local delegates, 91; visitors, 24; total, 161. Report accepted.

Report of auditing committee was made. Accepted.

A motion was made and seconded that the action of the executive committee in regard to Junior and Intermediate Work be affirmed and that the resolution be made to read as follows: "Resolved, that we give the Junior and Intermediate Committee of the Luther League of America $25 and that this amount be increased to $100, provided the other State Leagues raise $100 each, or an amount within reason."

Copies of convention LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW were ordered sent to district presidents to be distributed in the various districts.

A motion authorizing the president and secretary to decide the result of election of delegates and alternates to the National Luther League convention was carried. The decision follows:

Delegates—C. L. Schingledecker, Dayton; Clyde Blair, Mansfield; Carl Empson, Springfield; Arthur Feindt, Toledo; C. B. Grane, Canal Dover; Mrs. Nellie Troy Marsh, Newport, Ky.; Mabel Grafton, Barberton; Ethel Lutz, Canton; Rev. C. E. Portz, Berlin Center; Rev. W. E. Brown, Springfield.

Alternates—Marie Weil, Mansfield; Bernita Fausz, Waterville; Freda Rudolph, Osborn; E. J. Kneisley, Dayton; Martha Mohler, Delaware; Dorothy Kuhlman,

(*Continued on page* 20.)

General Secretary's Letter

DEAR FRIENDS:

As I write these lines I am on the wing. It is the Convention Season, and each state seems to select the same dates and want the services of the General Secretary. If those having in charge the arrangement of conventions would consult him in advance it might be possible to make matters more agreeable mutually. To be obliged to leave a convention at the most interesting part of its program, take a midnight train, be awakened at five to make a change, and then travel far into the night of the next day to get to another convention when it is half over is far from pleasant.

At the conventions this year the ladies are vastly in the majority. The absence of men who have gone to serve with the Colors is noticeable. This was especially so at the Kansas Convention, which met in Topeka. Kansas is fortunate in having a live wire president who keeps things moving not only at conventions, but between them as well. A president should be more than a presiding officer. He should be an executive.

The South Dakota League met at Brookings. Here we were treated to good, wholesome hospitality for which the Norwegians are noted. Mr. Lewis Larson, who had been the president for several years, felt constrained to relinquish the office, and Mr. Thorwald Ditmanson was elected his successor.

The Ohio League met at Springfield, the home of Wittenberg College and Seminary. Springfield is a strong Lutheran center. The Ohio League is run on clockwork time. Starts on the minute and never a minute lost. Mr. Rohde declined the presidency and Mr. Grover Ilgin was elected his successor.

We went to Wheeling to attend the convention of the Wheeling District. This district has recently withdrawn from the Ohio League and formed an independent district. We are looking for this to be the nucleus for a State League of West Virginia.

At Philadelphia we were permitted to attend the session of the Ministerium of Pennsylvania when the merger was introduced. Dr. Jacob Fry, the oldest member, moved the ratification of same, a score of throats called "second," the whole body called "question." The question was put, carried, the body rose as one man and sang, "Now Thank We All Our God," and in less than five minutes and without one word of debate, the Old Ministerium set the pace for the General Council. The meeting to effect the merger is scheduled for the second Tuesday of November, in Pittsburgh. May it be a day of days! I for one will be devoutly thankful to see that day.

From Philadelphia we traveled to Brooklyn to attend the Silver Jubilee Convention of the New York League. Mr. I. S. Runyon delivered the anniversary address. Our own Mr. Eilert was also present, and indulged in reminiscences. Mr. Wilke, who had served so faithfully as president for four years, was succeeded by Mr. G. C. Zecker. The Westchester District was received into membership.

From here we journeyed to Canada. At the border we had an assurance of the fact that Father Time had begun to lay his hand upon us. Men between the ages of twenty-one and thirty-one years must give reasons for leaving the United States. We were not questioned. The Canada League always meets on the 24th of May, which is the birthday of the late Queen Victoria and is a holiday. She has the problem of distances and poor railroad facilities. We are hoping to amalgamate the Luther League of Canada with a German organization (Yungenbund), which has existed for several years.

Many wounded soldiers are seen in Canada. They tell the story of one who returned minus both arms and legs. A gushing woman rushed up to him and exclaimed: "Oh, you poor man; I am so sorry for you. Are you married?" He replied: "No; this is the worst that has happened to me thus far."

We went to Buffalo and met with the committee who is planning to entertain the Luther League of America in August. They have their plans well under way, and we can promise the delegates a first class covention.

At Rochester we were permitted to attend a session of the Synod of New York and New England, who also ratified the merger with little comment. This is one of the most progressive district synods in the General Council. They have a Sunday School Secretary who is a live wire, and is such an enthusiast for his cause that the Synod gave over an afternoon for the holding of a Sunday School Institute. If the merger goes through, this Synod will unite with the District Synod of the General

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The Luther League of Kansas

Seventh Annual Convention at Topeka, Kansas, May 1-2-3, 1918

BY MRS. ORPHA MELLENBRUCH.

THE "best ever" convention of the Luther League of Kansas convened in the First Lutheran Church, Topeka, Kansas, Wednesday, May 1, for a three days' session.

The Topeka League had planned well the entertainment and delegates and visitors were made to feel the welcome extended from the very first. The seventh annual convention was filled with life and enthusiasm, and a desire to push forward in spite of the many obstacles that now lie in the path of Christian work.

The visiting Leaguers were pleased with the hospitality shown them by the local League and church. Although the Topeka League is not large numerically, they handled the convention splendidly and added much to "the pep" that characterized the entire meeting. The luncheons at the church were pleasant "get-together times."

Each convention emphasizes more the need of three departments of League work. Delegations were in attendance from Junior, Intermediate and Senior Leagues. The younger Leaguers enjoyed the meetings as well as the older ones, and added much to the life and interest of the work. Each year more of the Intermediate and Junior boys and girls attend, and we are glad that they are eagerly looking forward to the time when they can do their parts to further the work of the Luther League.

We had our National League with us in the persons of Mr. Harry Hodges, General Secretary, of Philadelphia, and Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, Literature Secretary, of Omaha. They contributed much to the success and interest of the convention, not only by the knowledge of League affairs which they brought, but also by their enthusiasm and personal magnetism. They

DELEGATES AT THE KANSAS STATE LUTHER LEAGUE CONVENTION.

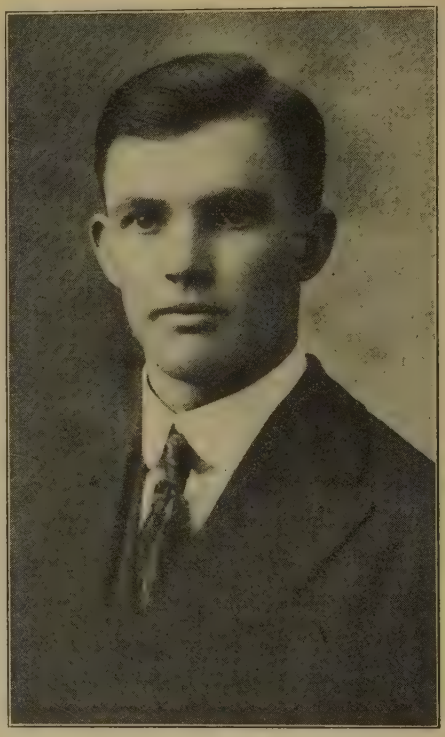
are certainly "live wires" in young people's work. The Luther League Conference by Mr. Hodges was full of practical suggestions and will help to solve many local problems. Rev. Kuhns addressed the convention on "Our Publications," and emphasized the need of intelligent work if there is to be progress. An informed Leaguer must have a broad view of not only local, but state and national work if real results are to be accomplished. And this information must come through the Luther League publications.

The program of the convention touched upon every phase of the work of Lutheran young people from the smaller local needs to the problems of the national work and Luther League expansion. There were no dull moments, for the addresses, discussions music and social features were each given proper arrangement and emphasis. It had been the ambition of the corps of officers of the Kansas Luther League to make the convention at Topeka the biggest in the history of the organization, and everything had been arranged to attain that end.

Very seldom is a western State League given opportunity to know and hear the really big men of the Church and State of today as was the Kansas League. On the program appeared addresses by such men, each active and well known in his particular walk of Church and civil life. Among the addresses were those by Hon. Arthur Capper, Governor of Kansas, statesman, editor and national authority on war problems; Harry Hodges, of Philadelphia, General Secretary of the Luther League of America; Rev. W. Albert Ericson, of Assaria, President of the Kansas Conference Luther League; Rev. Martin Norstad, Lutheran Camp Pastor at Camp Funston; Dr. J. F. Krueger, of the Western Theological Seminary of Atchison; Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, of Omaha, Literature Secretary of the Luther League of America, and for twenty-five years the "power behind the throne" in the Luther League; and Dr. R. B. Peery, of Atchison, president of Midland College and for twelve years a missionary in Japan. Each one of these features was a "jewel" and was greatly appreciated by the hearers.

One of the best parts of the program was the address by Hon. Arthur Capper, Governor of Kansas, and a man of high Christian character. In his address, "Kansas and the War," on Wednesday evening, he dwelt on the great part Kansas now plays in the world war and will play in the future. He has a broad and optimistic view of the situation and sees beyond the present chaos a time when peace shall reign and many reforms will have come because of the struggle.

The need of social enjoyment was recognized in the convention. After the Wednesday evening session the visitors were tendered a reception by the local League.



EVAN W. TONSING,
President Luther League of Kansas.

Music and refreshments, added to the "get-acquainted" spirit, made the hour a pleasant one. Friday morning at 6:30, after a prayer service, seventy Leaguers started out on a "hike" to Gage Park, a distance of two miles. A bushel of eggs were fried for the party's sandwiches, and none were bashful about showing they had worked up good appetites. They returned to the church by car, to take up the morning's business. Friday afternoon thirteen autos, heavily loaded, took the Leaguers on a sight-seeing tour. Topeka, being the State capital and a progressive city, has many places of interest. The trip was probably the most enjoyed of the social features.

In recognition of the growing importance of the Junior and Intermediate work, the

boys and girls from these departments were given a prominent place on the program. They had charge of the Thursday session after 3 p. m., furnishing the musical numbers, and gave reports and papers on their local work. Even these boys and girls realize the value of their League training and are proud of their part in the work of the Church. Two new Intermediate Leagues were admitted to State membership. The Junior and Intermediate work is showing progress, as was evidenced by the action taken by the convention in placing these departments in the hands of two secretaries, with separate districts, instead of one, as has been the custom.

The second evening was devoted to a musical, given by the Midland College Concert Company. The readings and musical numbers were of high standard.

The necessity of personal work and service was a need recognized in all the sessions. Dr. J. F. Krueger's appeal for more recruits for the ministry will no doubt have its reward. He recognized the fact that the young people's societies are the sources of our future workers. The Missionary Rally Thursday afternoon breathed of a desire to make progress in all lines of missionary activity. In the address of Rev. W. Albert Ericson, personal power and courage were given high place in the accomplishment of real results by the young people. From Dr. Peery, the convention heard a fine address on "The Challenge of the Age to the Young Lutherans." Great problems and burdens rest upon the shoulders of the present generation. His is a work of construction in the near future.

Loyalty to the Government of the United States is the cornerstone of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. Not only has this been demonstrated by the actions of the various conferences and synods, but but actual statistics showing the number of men given by our Church for military service, by the purchase of Government bonds, war saving stamps, and by participation in all the departments of war relief work. Records show that thousands and thousands of our young men have flocked to the colors and are now serving our country. As with our Church bodies, loyalty and patriotism were dominant features in all the actions of the convention. Many of our Leagues have suffered because of the loss of their young men, but no complaint was made. A real glance into the work of the Lutheran Camp Pastors was given by Rev. Martin Norstad, on Friday morning. He gave us a broad view of the religious care of our soldiers and told many things of interest concerning his work. The message was an inspiring one by a man who has the key to true service and Christian brotherly love.

The officers who were elected for this year are as follows: President, Evan W. Tonsing, Atchison; vice-president, Cletus E. Buehrer, Topeka; corresponding secretary, Miss Nettie Anderson, Emporia; recording secretary, Miss Vivian Sharping, Peabody; treasurer, Robert H. Albach, Lawrence.

At the Friday afternoon session the invitation of the Salina League to meet with them next year was adopted. We are all looking forward to a most interesting and profitable convention in Salina next spring.

Luther League of South Dakota

Twenty-first Annual Convention at Brookings, May 3-4-5

BY MILLIE THORSON.

MAY 1st and 2nd were busy days for many of us, as the twenty-first annual convention of the South Dakota State Luther League was to be held at Brookings May 3-5. Of course we couldn't miss that. We were heartily received by the local Leaguers, whose hospitality we enjoyed. It is needless to say we were royally entertained during our stay at Brookings.

The convention opened in due form and we were welcomed by the local pastor, Rev. B. A. Benson, who expressed joy at knowing that our young people held fast to "God's Work Which Is Our Heritage" and are bound together in an organization whose motto is "Of the Church, by the Church, for the Church." Miss Karlstad extended a welcome from the local League. Mr. Bragstad, chairman of the executive committee of the State, expressed joy and pleasure in accepting the hospitality of the League of Brookings.

Hon. Lewis Larson, of Sioux Falls, who has served so faithfully as State President for the past three years and who has the esteem and love of the Leaguers of the Sunshine State, announced the twenty-first annual convention opened, and gave a splendid address. Mr. Larson said that we must

turn our hearts to God in gratitude for His mercy and kindness, returning thanks, and to pray for divine assistance, without which we cannot succeed but with which success is certain. Being engaged in this world war, we have suddenly realized how narrow and selfish our lives really have been, and we are learning little by little the lesson of unselfish service and self-sacrifice. Our Leagues have had ups and downs, but the upward pace has been by far the predominating. In view of the fact that the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America contemplates organizing a Young People's League within our State, it is hoped arrangements can be made so that the bond of union which has united us with our sister Leagues of other branches of the Church for these many years may not be broken.

DELEGATES AND VISITORS TO

If there ever was a time when God's people in this land of ours must keep the faith, it is now. Let us keep our faith in God and try to see His connection with this awful calamity in the light of loving purposes, remembering always that God still lives, and waits with pity and love for sinful man. As true Soldiers of the Cross, with our faces toward the rising sun, let us as one large army march on to battle for the right, firm in our conviction that, implicitly obeying our Master's orders, certain victory shall be ours.

Professor Glasoe, of Canton, led the singing throughout the convention. In this time of the world war, no more fitting theme could have been chosen than "The Christian Soldier." Rev. Westermoe, of Lake Preston, in the keynote address forcibly stated the truth that a greater and even more important warfare is ours as Soldiers of Christ. He said: "As Luther Leaguers we are not unconcerned as to the great conflict 'Over There.' We are Americans, Americans first and last, fighting for truth and right. But there is another conflict, a vaster warfare, a warfare that lasts as long as we are under the banner of the cross. Yes, a conflict between right and wrong, God and Hell. And wherein every country's souls are in the balance. Our enemy is an organized power. The devil our first enemy, as commander-in-chief; his policy is one of falsity and lies, mixing lies with truth. Let us remember one-half error and one-half truth is all error. Remember Paul's words, II Tim. 1, 13. Our second enemy—the world. Christ says, 'The world shall hate you.' True Christians we must be, our lives, our confessions. The people took notice of Christ's disciples that they had been with Jesus. Our third enemy—self. Our own flesh, most dangerous enemy, are those within our forts, because they will betray us into the hands of the enemy. 'Watch ye,' peace terms never. No compromise—we must be on guard, never sleeping, must make drives and not only hold the ranks. 'Make Christ King.' We cannot all be officers, but the battle is not won by officers alone, but by the file and ranks."

Very impressive was the presence in our midst of Rev. Joseph Green, Camp Pastor of Rockford, Ill. It was great to know

that our Lutheran Church was awake and had answered the call, raised the money to carry on the great work, and had sent workers into the cantonments. He spoke eloquently to us at the patriotic service held on Sunday afternoon at the College Auditorium.

After the first evening session we were tendered a reception in the church parlors, where we had an opportunity to greet old friends and make new acquaintances.

Mrs. J. O. Berdahl, of Sioux Falls, prepared and read an excellent paper on "The Christian Soldier—Training," and Miss Lydia Marvick, of Sisseton, gave us a fine paper on "The Christian Soldier—Loyalty." Miss Bertha Bragstad, of the Beloit Orphans' Home, and Mr. Martin Nelson, of Webster, both very ably led the discussions on these papers. Rev. H. O. Bjorlie, of Sioux Falls, led the discussion on the paper on "Service." The members of the local choir gave us some splendid music, choir songs as well as quartets, duets and solos.

We were all delighted to again have with us Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, Literature Secretary of the Luther League of America, whose eloquent address, "The Flag That Makes You Free," given at the patriotic services, was much enjoyed. With him was Mr. Harry Hodges, of Philadelphia, our General Secretary of the Luther League of America. Those of us who had the pleasure of meeting him and hearing him one year ago at Sisseton knew we had a treat coming, as he was to give an address on "The Luther League—A Training Camp for Service," and we were not disappointed. Rev. and Mrs. Tollefson were also among those who came. Mrs. Tollefson prepared a splendid paper on "The Christian Soldier—Service." Surely after hearing this we all felt we were not trained nor loyal Christians if we were not willing to be of service.

Saturday morning we were at the church for one-half hour of prayer service led by Rev. Kuhns. All of Saturday was a busy day. Business of course must have its hours. There was the election of officers, reports of committees, and miscellaneous business. The officers elected were: President, Thorvald Ditmandson, of Webster; vice-president, Henry Stellner, of Aberdeen; recording secretary, Johanna Olson, of Brookings; corresponding secretary, Bertha Bragstad, of Canton; and treasurer, Lydia Marvick, of Siseton. The Luther League of Spencer, South Dakota, Rev. Bessler, pastor, was admitted into the State League.

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We also listened to splendid papers and discussions, interspersed with singing and instrumental music. We must not forget the very beneficial Luther League Institute conducted by Mr. Hodges, which made some of us feel unqualified for offices we hold, but we determined to do our part in becoming more efficient in the future.

Saturday afternoon was spent in a social way, the local League having prepared for a picnic, the special feature of which was a marshmallow toast.

Sunday morning a large audience assembled and Rev. L. C. Jacobson, of Redfield,

(*Continued on page* 38.)

GENERAL SECRETARY'S LETTER

(*Continued from page* 14.)

Synod occupying the same territory. This is an example which might be followed with good results the country over.

We then journeyed to Wilkes-Barre, and had a consultation with the Treasurer of the Luther League of America, Mr. Banker. We determined to make the last week of July Clean Up Week, asking all our Leagues to clean up their indebtedness to the higher bodies that we might come to the Buffalo Convention with a clean slate.

We are spending today in Philadelphia. It is Memorial Day, and in obedience to the Proclamation of our President, the churches are holding services; but, oh, how poorly attended! Why is it that the people who brand you as disloyal if you do not agree to everything which Mr. Wilson advocates from a civic standpoint consider themselves at perfect liberty to disregard his statements relative to religion? As I left church, I heard a young Leaguer say to another: "I am now going to a movie." As I passed along the streets where the theaters abound I saw throngs going in to the matinee, and as I raised my eyes to the windows of a newspaper office I saw and read the President's Proclamation, in which he exhorted the people to spend the day in humiliation, prayer and fasting. We need not use a telescope to seek for the cause of the war. It can be seen with the naked eye. We would not listen to the teachings of the Church, so God must chastise us with war in order to teach us obedience, sacrifice and service.

In a few hours I will leave for York, where I will interview the president and the treasurer of the Pennsylvania League relative to their coming convention at Greensburg, July 30 and 31, and August 1.

In our next letter we will review our future League visitations and give full information relative to the Buffalo Convention. Plan your vacation now to include August 27, 28, 29.

Very cordially yours,
HARRY HODGES,
General Secretary.

NEW RECORDING SECRETARY

Rev. Lewis Birge Chamberlain, M. A., has been elected by the board of managers, recording secretary of the American Bible Society, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Rev. Henry Otis Dwight, LL. D.

Mr. Chamberlain was born at Vellore, India. His father was Rev. Dr. Jacob Chamberlain, a widely known and greatly beloved missionary of the Reformed Church in America, one of the outstanding missionary figures of the last century. Mr. Chamberlain was graduated from Rutgers College, New Brunswick, N. J., in 1886, and from the New Brunswick Theological Seminary in 1891. On his graduation he was ordained as a missionary and sent to India, following in the footsteps of his father. He joined the Arcot Mission and served in that mission in Southern India until his return to this country in 1914. He came into the service of the American Bible Society in 1915 as assistant corresponding secretary to share in the plans and preparations for the Centennial. His experience as a missionary and mission secretary, his relations in India to other missions as secretary of the South India Christian Endeavor Union, and later general secretary of the Christian Endeavor Union of India, Burmah, and Ceylon, his literary labors in preparing a system of Bible instruction in missionary schools, etc., and his relations to the government in India, all have prepared him for the special tasks for which he has now been chosen. We believe he will be most welcome to the great missionary family in the United States and throughout the world of which the American Bible Society is a member.

LUTHER LEAGUE OF OHIO

(*Continued from page* 13.)

Mansfield; Lucy Schaefer, Akron; Mary Campbell, Sulphur Springs; Ruth Meeker, Findlay; Gertrude Counsellor, Lima.

Session adjourned.

Sixth Session

The closing session opened with vesper services. Edith Kuhn favored with a solo. The address of the evening, on "The Gospel of Thrift," was given by Rev. E. A. Trabert, Lima, Ohio. This address was in keeping with the times. An offering was taken, which was turned over to the Jubilee Fund.

New Leagues formed in the State during the past year were received into membership in the State organization.

After closing vespers, convention adjourned.

The manner of the new birth is God's affair; the duty of faith is ours; the prying into the new birth is profitless; ours it is to live like new creatures in Christ Jesus.

Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, Editor, Omaha, Nebraska; with W. C. Stoever, Litt.D., Philadelphia, Pa.; J. M. Reynolds, Valatie, N. Y.; I. S. Runyon, New York, N. Y.; A. T. Michler, Philadelphia, Pa., *as special associates, and the co-operation of the Literature Committee of the Luther League of America.* Send all articles, communications and news items that concern the Editorial Department to the Editor, Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, 440 Paxton Block, Omaha, Nebraska.

Luther League Review

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE LUTHER LEAGUE
ISSUED MONTHLY BY THE

Luther League of America

IN THE INTERESTS OF

The Lutheran Church and Her Young People

E. F. EILERT, Publisher, New York.

Subscription, 60 cents a year. Send remittances in stamps, Post Office or Express Money Order, Draft, or Registered Letter, and all communications relating to business to LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW, Publication Office, 318-326 West Thirty-ninth street, New York.

Entered at the New York Post Office as Second Class Matter.

Editorial

AMERICA AT PRAYER

America stands for national righteousness. The sense of justice and right is inherent in the American nature. Born under the flag that makes men free, the rulers of this nation always and ever have recognized God's government in the affairs of men. Washington in the founding of this nation carried the burdens of state to God in prayer. Lincoln found sustaining power in prayer in the crisis when the nation's life was at stake. McKinley died with the thought of obedience to God's will, whispering in his passing breath, "Nearer, My God, to Thee!" Today the nation is called by its President to pray and not to faint. It is a recognition of God and His ruling hand in our national destiny. It is perpetuating the American sense of national righteousness which would put the nation in its war for humanity and democracy squarely upon God's side in this mighty conflict and this insures for us ultimate victory.

PERSONAL WORK

Let each member of the League be responsible for at least one person's attendance at the service. Bring an outsider. Let each one be responsible for another. A Leaguer tells of a place where the young people were anxious to have a League and attended a State convention, paying their own expenses, and when they got home from the convention they were so enthusiastic because of the personal touch they had received from the convention, that a League was organized and a very successful one, in their congregation. In one city, the evening services were kept going during the Billy Sunday meetings, by every Leaguer attending the devotional service of the League, and seeing that some one else attended these services. It was not a contest. It was simply personal work and service for the Church. The homes were interested in the work of the League and the congregation, and the interest of the home in the League and its work secured the attendance and sustained the interest.

SOME PHASES OF THE LEAGUE WORK

League problems have not all been solved. One problem is to impress the Leaguers with the importance of their work, and to secure that consecration that will lead them to respond to the demands the Church makes upon them for service. One of the greatest problems in the League today is to get that consecration of the young people so that they will be filled with love for God and for His Kingdom and so that they will take part in the program. This is the key to all effective League work. Where desired, the League can assist the pastor in many ways. Nobody is better qualified, for example, to make sick calls upon a young person than a member of the League. One young person will have an influence over another that even a pastor cannot have.

The Bible Study School during the vacation affords a field of effort. We have an instance of a teacher who tells us that in his Bible Study School during the vacation period he has attendants from all denominations, even from the Catholic Church. The League can keep up the interest in the Bible Study School.

One thing the League needs more than anything else is people who will specialize in League work. Get officers in the League who will be able to devote their time to this very thing and also give attention to the devotional services. This will increase the

attendance and benefit the League. Most of the things that have been brought to the attention of the Leaguers in these suggestions have grown out of the experience of people who have tried them in the practical work of the League. There is very little in the suggestions for work in the Luther League that has appeared in these columns that is purely theoretical, if any. The things suggested will work. If they do not work in your experience, it is probably because you have chosen a wrong method. If you have put any of these suggestions into practice and if they have not worked at first, do not give them up until you have given them a thorough trial. Some one has made them work. All you need to do is to find the right method to make them work. You may need to adapt it to your local conditions. If so, change it so as to fit into your peculiar environment, but the general fundamental ideas in the suggestions have all been workable and are the results of practical experience.

Our Thirteenth Convention

THE call for the Thirteenth Convention of the Luther League of America, to be held in Buffalo, N. Y., on August 27, 28 and 29, has been issued. Buffalo is a Lutheran center. It will be a great pleasure to the Luther Leaguers to meet those of the same faith in this great City of the Lakes.

A program has been arranged that should attract all Lutherans. The topic selected is important. While we might be well satisfied with the welcome of the Buffalo Luther Leagues that will be given us in August, our prime object in the convention must center in the program.

The convention sermon will be preached on Tuesday evening in Holy Trinity Church. The business of the convention will begin Wednesday morning.

There will be a Pastors' Conference, Officers' and Committees' Conference, League Workers' Conference and Intermediate Workers' Conference.

Among the speakers secured are Prof. A. R. Wentz, Gettysburg; Hon. James Gear, New York; Rev. W. G. Boomhower, Troy, N. Y., and Rev. L. C. Manges, D. D., Harrisburg.

The Grand Rally will be held in the Elmwood Music Hall, Virginia and Elmwood avenues. Boy Scouts will meet the train.

CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS.

The Hotel Cheltenham will be the Convention Headquarters. It is located at 234 Franklin street. Besides this hotel there are a number of other hotels, but the Cheltenham will make special rates to delegates and visitors to the convention. The following are the Buffalo hotels:

	Single	*Double*	
Cheltenham, 234 Franklin St. (American Plan)	$3.50	$5.00	
With bath	4.00	6.00	
Lafayette, Clinton and Washington (European Plan)	$2.00	$3.50	up
With bath	2.50	4.00	"
Statler, Washington and Swan (European Plan)	2.50	4.00	"
With bath	3.00	4.50	"
Iroquois, Main and Eagle (European Plan)	2.00	3.00	"
With bath	2.50	4.50	"
Lenox, 140 North St. (European Plan)	1.50	2.50	
Markeen, Main and Utica (European Plan)	2.00	3.00	
Men's Hotel, Pearl and Genesee (Y. M. C. A.)	.50	.75-1.00	

The convention is a delegate body. Delegates should present their credentials upon their arrival to the credential committee at the bureau of registration. Be sure to have your credentials. Credentials must be signed by the President and Secretary of the League.

Luther League supplies and badges will be on sale in one of the rooms of the church. Leave your subscriptions there for the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW, the *Topics*, and the *Junior Topics*, the official publications of the Luther League of America. Special convention copies of the Convention Number of the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW can be secured at ten cents per copy by leaving your order with those in charge of the Luther League supplies. Order at once if you wish a full report of the proceedings of this convention. Supply department only open before and at the close of each session of the convention.

A registration fee of $1 will be asked.

Rev. H. F. Miller is chairman of the Committee on Information. Those desiring information should address him at 34 Nevada avenue, Buffalo, N. Y.

"It is He (God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost) that hath made us, and not we ourselves."

Our Churches and Institutions

In Some of Our Large Cities

NEW YORK

—President Knubel, of the National Lutheran Commission, and Rev. Lars Larsen, secretary of the commission, with Dr. H. D. Stub, president of the Norwegian Lutheran Church; Hon. John L. Zimmerman. Senator Knute Nelson and Congressmen Haugen and Overmeyer were in conference with Secretary of War Baker on May 6 regarding matters pertaining to the Lutheran Commission representatives to France. Two representatives will go to France and take up work in connection with the French Lutheran Church.

—The Church of the Advent, Rev. A. Steimle, D.D., pastor, has paid off its floating debt of $5,000. The Easter collection for mortgage debt reduction amounted to $2,000, and $810 was contributed for benevolence, including $110 from the Sunday school for church extension.

—The Lutheran Bureau wants the names of every Lutheran, pastor as well as layman, who can speak in public. The speakers' section of the Lutheran Bureau is national in scope. It provides speakers for Lutheran congregations whenever desired. It stimulates opportunities for Lutheran speakers to address non-Lutheran audiences. Send in full name and address to Lutheran Bureau, Inc., 31 Union Square, New York City.

—Rev. J. A. O. Stub has resigned as pastor of the Stoughton churches and will devote all his time as executive secretary of Lutheran Commission for Soldiers and Sailors. His headquarters will be at New York with office at 437 Fifth avenue.

BUFFALO

—The fortieth year of English Lutheranism begins May 1. This date celebrates the thirty-ninth anniversary of the founding of Holy Trinity Church. To those who know Buffalo and the present strength of our English work the number of congregations and their large views and wide interest in the general work of the church as well as their activity in the home work these forty years of labor give evidence of rich fruitage.

—The Church of the Atonement, Rev. Peter Altpeter, pastor, had an income during the past year of $633.34.

PHILADELPHIA

—In the historic old St. Michael's Church, Germantown, Philadelphia, a patriotic service was held, the occasion being the receipt and dedication of a very handsome silk flag by a young man of the church. The flag was dedicated by the pastor, Rev. Stephen A. Paulson, being borne into the church by men in the service. Judge Patterson, of Philadelphia, delivered a very able address. The Judge linked history and Scripture and emphasized the fact that he was speaking in a church the fathers of which had been heroes of the Revolution, and called attention especially to the grave of a Revolutionary hero, Christopher Ludwig, mentioning him as the Hoover of the Revolution. Mr. Ludwig, who was Baker General to Washington's army, lies buried in the St. Michael's Cemetery directly in front of the church.

—Rev. Paul I. Morentz, Philadelphia missionary to the Jews, spoke at St. John's, Melrose Park, Philadelphia, Pa. As a direct result of his visit and address a number of the laymen have become personally interested in the work and the Sunday school of St. John's pledged a tenth of the salary of a woman worker to aid Rev. Morentz in his missionary operations.

—Hon. Ralph Busser, the newly appointed United States Consul in Bergen, Norway, is a member of Zion Church, York, Pa. At the outbreak of the war he was the United States Consul at Trieste, Austria.

—The Rev. Jeremiah J. Schindel, Allentown's war parson, has been called to the pastorate of St. Mark's Lutheran Church. The pulpit of this church was for many years occupied by the late Rev. Dr. C. Armand Miller.

CHICAGO

—Chicago Theological Seminary has nineteen graduates this year for the active work of the ministry. The complete enrollment includes 54 resident and 93 non-resident students, a total of 147.

CHARLESTON

—Rev. G. J. Gonaware, D.D., celebrated the centennial of the consecration of the church edifice of St. John's Church, Charleston, S. C.

MINNEAPOLIS AND ST. PAUL

—Wilhelm Preus, eldest son of Rev. J. W. Preus, of Minneapolis, has been appointed assistant military attaché to the United States legation in Copenhagen, Denmark, with the rank of captain, and has already reached Copenhagen and assumed his post.

PITTSBURGH

—The Inner Mission Society of Pittsburgh recently dedicated the "Lutheran Hospice for Young Women." The hospice is located at 330 East North avenue, within walking distance of the business district, and fronts on the North

(*Continued on page* 28.)

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Luther League

SEND IN THE NEWS—Under this heading we aim to give the fullest reports possible of all District and Local Leagues. Secretaries and other officers are earnestly solicited to send in reports and items of news promptly

Luther League of America

Organized at Pittsburgh, Pa., October 30 and 31, 1895, by delegates representing State, District and individual organizations from twenty different States in the Union and District of Columbia.

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☞ All communications regarding membership, constitutions, statistics, etc., should be addressed to the General Secretary, Harry Hodges, 838 Drexel Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.

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NEW YORK

BROOKLYN-LONG ISLAND DISTRICT

—The District Luther League of Brooklyn and Long Island held one of its most successful conventions on May 4, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Brooklyn. One hundred and thirty-six accredited delegates, besides fifty and more visitors, were present and took an enthusiastic interest in the afternoon and evening sessions.

The treasurer reported that $100.25 of the $164 apportionment of the Jubilee Fund had been collected, and that an effort was being made to collect the entire apportionment. One hundred and seventy dollars has also been collected to defray the local expenses for the entertainment of the twenty-fifth anniversary convention of the Luther League of New York State.

The following Leagues were received into membership: Luther League of St. John's, Richmond Hill; Cotta Club of St. Luke's, Brooklyn; Junior Luther League of St. Matthew's, Brooklyn.

Much of the business session was devoted to a résumé of the preparations for making the twenty-fifth anniversary convention of the State League one of the most important in the State's history. A special reception and a sight-seeing trip has been arranged; special music has been provided, including the choirs of Christ Church, Brooklyn; St. Luke's, Brooklyn; St. Paul's, Brooklyn, and many additional "surprises" have been planned.

An interesting and inspiring Round Table discussion was conducted by the Rev. A. C. Karkau, with Mrs. Frank Miller and the Rev. H. S. Miller as principal speakers. Many of the delegates also took part. The topic discussed was "The Luther League's Responsibility to the Newly Confirmed Members."

Prof. Benjamin R. Andrews, of Teachers College, Columbia University, delivered a short address on "War Time Saving—the Thrift Stamp Saving Association."

The banner for the highest attendance was awarded to the Luther League of the Church of the Redeemer, Brooklyn, with 88 per cent. Special mention was made of Christ Church, Brooklyn, with the largest delegation present, 23 out of 30, 77 per cent., and the Church of the Incarnation, Brooklyn, with 16 out of 23.

Chaplain Charles D. Trexler, formerly of Camp Upton, was the speaker for the evening session, on the subject, "Experiences of a Camp Pastor."

The next district convention is to be held in the Church of the Messiah, Brooklyn, in the fall.

ALBANY AND SUSQUEHANNA DISTRICT

—The Luther League of the Church of the Redeemer, Albany, N. Y., recently held its annual meeting. Mr. William Unright was unanimously made president. A reception was tendered to the newly confirmed members of the church and fifteen names were added to the roll.

John R. Hauf, William Hettinger and Louis Cramer are doing their bit in France. Walter Strenge is in Santo Domingo, and most of the other young men of the League are in training at camps in the States.

BETHANY

—Central Bridge has twenty-two active members. Every month this League has a meeting at the home of one of the members and after business has been transacted they enjoy a social time. This League is endeavoring to provide money for the purchase of an altar in the church. They hope to soon have enough money to purchase the altar for the church. They gave a musicale and cleared $15.

ONEONTA

—Oneonta has a Luther League with three students preparing for the ministry at Hartrick Seminary. This League has raised $100 within the last few months to be applied on the reduction of the parsonage debt. Mr. Charles Witthoft, a former president of this League and one time statistical secretary of the Albany and Susquehanna District League, met with a painful accident, fracturing his skull and suffering other injuries as a result of a fall which occurred while playing basketball. He is slowly recovering.

RHINEBECK DISTRICT

—The forty-first annual convention of this district was held at Athens, May 7. The following were elected officers: President, Edgar Meyers, Kingston; vice-president, Rev. George T. Heintz, Saugerties; second vice-president, J. Holbenski, Rhinebeck; third vice-president, Miss Ina Vosburgh, Ancram; fourth vice-president, Alfred Kohler, Kingston; recording secretary, Carrie Klecher, Saugerties; corresponding secretary, Cathryn Rora, Kingston; treasurer, William Van Hoesen, Athens. Delegates to State convention, H. G. Corliss and William Van Hoesen. Delegate to National convention, Edgar Miers. The next convention will be held at Poughkeepsie.

BUFFALO DISTRICT

—Mr. Louis A. Wilke, president of the New York State League, is now treasurer of Wagenschuetz Hardware Company, inc., North Tonawanda. Congratulations.

PENNSYLVANIA

To the Luther Leaguers of Pennsylvania:

Our State convention will soon be held. We know you wish to come together with our records "the best yet." We cannot do it unless we pay our "just debts." We owe the Luther League of America $700 balance for 1917 dues and about $2,100 for the Jubilee Fund. All the treasurers, district and local, are expected to do their best in helping to balance both accounts before the convention.

M. HALLER FREY,
Treasurer, Luther League of Pennsylvania.

PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT

—Rev. Arthur T. Michler is director of Camp Artman, a summer camp for boys under the influence of the Lutheran Church at Sellersville. The camp will be conducted during the month of July. Boys of ten years of age and over are invited to this camp of wholesome influence and delightful recreation.

The location of the camp is on a beautiful

MÖLLER PIPE ORGANS
In twenty-four hundred churches. The highest grade instruments. Satisfaction guaranteed. Catalogs, specifications and estimates on request.
M. P. MÖLLER, Hagerstown, Maryland

tract of land of about 500 acres, through which the beautiful North Branch of the Perkiomen Creek flows. Here are found the beauties of the open country with opportunities for boating, bathing, fishing, hiking, tennis and athletics of all kinds.

UPPER LEHIGH DISTRICT

—The forty-fifth semi-annual convention of this district was very successful and many plans were made for the advancement of the work. Mr. Ellis E. Stauffer, in his report as president, recommended the district to pay the balance of the Jubilee money out of the current expense treasury before paying the bills of the State convention. The delegates backed up the suggestion and quickly passed a motion, so that now all the Jubilee money will be paid. After eight years of service Mr. Stauffer declined to be re-elected president, but accepted the office of statistician.

The convention received a delightful surprise when it was announced that the ex-district president, Mr. Ellis Stauffer, and the district treasurer, Miss Myrtle E. Heidenreich, would be married some time during the summer months. The district extended to them their hearty congratulations and best wishes for a happy wedded life.

YORK

—The executive committee of the York District League have sent out another excellent circular letter. From this letter we glean the following interesting items:

Our extension committee reports thirty-eight societies visited by 172 members of our speakers' and musical bureau. This is very encouraging. Be sure to invite them to your society.

Our junior work committee reports five Junior societies visited by forty-three Junior members of our speakers' and musical bureau. The junior work committee is arranging for a musicale to be given by the Juniors in the chapel of Union Lutheran Church, South Penn street, York, on June 14, 1918, at 8 p. m. They will be assisted by Mr. Allen Bond on the cello.

LATRONA

—St. Peter's Church, Rev. M. A. Meier, pastor, was filled with a capacity audience to witness an unusual service. The Junior Luther League, numbering fifty-nine members, presented the church with a handsome baptismal font to match the other chancel furniture. At the same service a silk service flag containing ten stars was unfurled and the pastor preached an appropriate sermon on "Enlisting for Service."

NEW JERSEY

—Dr. William P. Steinhauser, president of the Luther League of New Jersey, having removed from the State, Mr. Henry W. Fiedler, Atlantic City, has become State president. President Fiedler has sent out an excellent letter to the Luther Leaguers of the State. We gather the following from this interesting letter:

With the merger of all the Lutheran bodies greater things will be expected from the League. Come and join the ranks and add momentum to the work. Inasmuch as the State financial obligations are to be paid as debts are incurred, your society, as a State member, is earnestly requested to forward the State dues to our State treasurer, Miss Blanche Davis, Riverside, as soon as convenient.

President Fiedler asks and will receive the continued co-operation of all the officers of the State League and the State work will continue to grow and spread. The Luther Leaguers of New Jersey are urged to plan their vacation for the week of the national convention at Buffalo, August 27, 28 and 29. A good suggestion.

BALTIMORE

MARYLAND

—Dr. and Mrs. Alfred Pfitsch, who were identified with the Luther League of the First Church, Baltimore, is the new medical missionary for the Rentachintala Mission Hospital in India.

OHIO

—Rev. Joseph Settler, pastor of St. Peter's Church, Lancaster, reports a recent addition of sixty new members to his Luther League.

INDIANA

—The Fort Wayne Luther League convention was held at North Manchester, Rev. George Beiswanger, pastor, May 23. The convention sermon was preached by Rev. H. N. Thompson, of Albion. Mr. W. F. Renz read a paper on the "Duties of Luther League Officers." Miss Bessie Ritenour opened the discussion. The place of the topic in the discussion was presented by Mrs. Huntington and the discussion was opened by Mr. Wetters. A paper on the "Method of the Presentation of the Topic," by Miss Marie LaOtta, Miss Rose DeLancey opened the discussion. Rev. Wheadon conducted the convention box. Mr. O. C. C. Fetta conducted a modern devotional meeting. The evening address on "The Patriotic Element in Church Work" was delivered by Rev. F. W. Rohlfing, D.D., of Richmond.

—The Luther League of New Corydon, Ind., reports an increase of eight members recently in a League now numbering thirty-six. It has sent a box of eats to the Springfield Orphans' Home and a remembrance to one of its Leaguers, Mr. Emerson Wall, now somewhere in France. It also recently took charge of a special church service and carried it through successfully.

ILLINOIS

CHICAGO

—The eighth annual banquet of the Luther League of Chicago was held Wednesday evening, May 22, in the Auditorium Hotel. The feature of this banquet was the dedication of a service flag of many stars. The menu was excellent. "America" was sung and Mrs. Minnie L. Boedecker, president of the Luther League of Chicago, gracefully acted as toastmistress. Rev. Dolbeer pronounced the invocation. The magnificent service flag was unfurled and the first verse of "The Star Spangled Banner" was sung. Mr. Harry F. Langguth was the accompanist. The address of dedication was most eloquent and was delivered by the Rev. Dr. Dornblaser. Sergeant Morton, of the First British Canadian Contingent, held the interested attention of the audience as he spoke of "Experiences at the Front." Miss Myrtle Schulz sang most acceptably the solo, "I've Seen the Swallows Pass." Hon. John Stelk delivered the address of the evening on "Patriotism." He aroused the spirit of his audience and held them with his patriotic fervor. Our correspondent says it was the best banquet of the Luther League held in the city and the speeches were all very good. Trinity Church.—The Luther League gave a reception for the confirmation class. The Luther

League has also appointed a committee to keep in touch with the boys in the army and navy. The Luther League decided to give $10 toward the support of the Mission Sunday school. Zion Church.—Mr. J. A. Nelson, president of the Luther League of Illinois, and Mrs. Boedecker, president of the Luther League of Chicago, spoke at the rally in Zion Church. Their words were an inspiration to the Leaguers. The thought in these speeches was "How to Make Our Luther League Larger and Every Member a Worker." The Zion League purchased a $50 Liberty Bond and invested additional money in War Savings Stamps.

WISCONSIN

—The annual convention of the Luther League of Wisconsin will be held in LaCrosse, June 25 to 27. The convention theme is "Keep the Home Fires Burning." The speakers for the general meetings will be Rev. G. K. Rubrecht, Minneapolis; Mr. C. T. A. Anderson, president of the Luther League of America, and Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, Literature Secretary of the Luther League of America.

—Rev. James F. Beatys and Miss Elizabeth Bogk were married at the Church of the Redeemer at Milwaukee. Rev. Dr. W. K. Frick, cousin of the groom, officiated. Rev. Beatys has been a frequent contributor to the Luther League Topics.

—Rev. C. A. Naumann, an active Luther Leaguer and pastor of the Reformation Church of Milwaukee, has been bereaved by the death of his wife, who was called home after a short illness. The REVIEW extends its condolence.

MICHIGAN

—A Junior Luther League of twenty members has been organized in the Lutheran Church of Three Rivers. Rev. D. P. Blair, pastor.

MINNESOTA

—St. John's Church, Rev. H. C. Rex, pastor, has entered upon a new era of activity and usefulness. It has a Luther League of fifty members who are doing an active work for the members of the church.

NEBRASKA

—Rev. Luther M. Kuhns, editor of the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW, delivered an address on "Cash and Powder" at the twenty-first annual convention of the North Nebraska Bankers' Association at Norfolk.

WASHINGTON

—The Federation of Lutheran Young People's Societies of Portland and vicinity was entertained by St. Paul's Luther League of Vancouver, Wash., Monday evening, April 22, about 135 delegates present, principal feature of the meeting was an address by Rev. F. W. Bussard, president of the Pacific Synod, La Grande, Ore., on the "Lutheran Church in the American Army and Navy." Address by Rev. B. S. Nystrom, of Bruch Prairie, Wash., on "Lutheranism at Camp Lewis, Washington." "Lutheran Brotherhood Work at Camp Dodge," by Mrs. Lieutenant Holt, of St. James' Church, Portland, Ore, recently returned from Camp Dodge, and a solo by Miss Swanman, of the Augustana Swedish Lutheran Church of Portland.

INDIA

—From a letter from Miss Agnes I. Schade, Rajahmundry, we glean the following:

On Wednesday afternoon we close school at 4.10, and the Luther League and the Children's Band meet alternately. One meeting of each is a missionary meeting and the offering is for some phase of mission work. The other is more general and the offering is used in some way or other toward the war funds. Saturday is a very busy day, as you may imagine. On Sunday morning they attend the Telugu church service at 8 o'clock. After returning, one of the teachers conducts a Sunday school class on my veranda, and the Luther League girls by turns attend to help with the singing. While this little Sunday school is going on, all the girls are formed in different groups for reading or singing. After the noon meal the older girls go over the Sunday school lesson with the girls in their rooms. They are also at times given Sunday reading matter. At 2 p. m. we meet in the prayer room for an hour, where we have singing, reading, reciting, Bible verses, etc. Sometimes general Bible questions are asked, at another time there are questions asked on the sermon heard in the morning, or a nice story is read or told, or some interesting information given, etc. Sunday school begins at 4:30, and the evening meal and family worship close the busy Sunday. I trust you are interested in this school, where we are giving Christian education to Christian girls in the midst of a heathen community.

OUR CHURCHES AND INSTITUTIONS

(*Continued from page* 23.)

Side Park. The building is three stories high and contains twenty-nine rooms, with a large laundry and gymnasium in the basement. On the second and third floors eighteen rooms have been furnished as guest bedrooms. The first floor contains a parlor, reception room, library, dining room, kitchen, pantry and storerooms. The dining room seats about sixty-five guests. The entire building has been renewed and painted throughout and is completely furnished and equipped for hospice purposes. The house accommodates about thirty-six guests.

Part of the property was formerly one of Allegheny's beautiful residences, while the rear annex was added in 1910 by the Protestant Home for Boys, which occupied the building till January. Last December the Inner Mission Society purchased the same for $25,000. A general indebtedness of less than $10,000 remains on the entire project. This is to be wiped out before 1919.

Mrs. Lewis Hay, of Indiana, Pa., is in charge as matron and is giving her services voluntarily for six months. While Lutherans are given preference, creed and nationality exclude no one.

Pittsburgh Lutherans have not opened this hospice for themselves but for their stranger sisters. If Luther Leagues, Sunday school classes and women's societies will co-operate with the hospice many a Lutheran girl will be saved from danger and possible ruin. Pastors are requested to refer their young folks coming to Pittsburgh to the hospice or notify the matron. The hospice stands ready to shelter and protect.

ATCHISON

—Some time ago a committee of the citizens of Atchison was appointed to make investigations concerning the loyalty of Midland College, Atchison, Kan., for the United States Govern-

ment. The committee has finished its work and has published a very complimentary report concerning the loyalty of both faculty and students of our college. This is another evidence of the loyalty of the Lutheran Church to the Government, although there are some illy informed or evil minded people who would like to have it appear otherwise.

—The famous Messiah Chorus of Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kan., 500 singers, orchestra directors and soloists, gave two performances for the soldiers at Funston. The audience packed the big Kansas building to its capacity. It is the first time in the history of the festival that the Lutheran singers of this Lutheran Bethany College gave a performance ouside of Lindsborg.

The event was in every way unique. No such musical treat has been given in any American army camp since the commencement of the war. The Messiah Chorus of Lindsborg is one of the finest organizations of its kind in the world, and only the patriotic impulse given by present circumstances was sufficient to bring it for the first time from its home town.

NEWBERRY

—A summer school for church workers will be held in Newberry College, Newberry, S. C., on July 20 to 26. The following able and attractive faculty has been secured: Rev. D. Burt Smith, D.D., Rev. F. C. Longaker, Ph.D., Rev. H. A. McCullough, D.D., Rev. E. C. Cronk, D.D., Mr. Harry Hodges, and Mrs. E. C. Cronk and Mrs. M. O. J. Kreps. Additional instructors will be announced later. Also the complete program of courses, list of textbooks, etc.

OMAHA

—Mr. John Hay Kuhns is engaged in the work of the Y. M. C. A. at the Y. building at Fort Omaha. He is a son of the late Rev. H. W. Kuhns, D.D., founder of Kountze Memorial Church, Omaha, and a brother of the editor

MISCELLANEOUS

—Mr. William P. Houseal, A.M., has completed thirty-seven years of service on *The Lutheran Church Visitor*, the official weekly of the United Synod. For twenty-five years of this time he was editor of *The Lutheran Visitor*. At present he is associate editor.

—Rev. J. A. Morehead, D.D., president of Roanoke College, was elected president of the Association of Virginia Colleges. Dr. Morehead is also chairman of the Committee on War Co-operation of the association and a member of the Committee on Patriotic Education of the National Security League.

—The Attorney General of Manitoba, Hon. T. H. Johnston, is a faithful Icelandic Lutheran Church member and a leader in the choir of the congregation in Winnipeg. He was formerly Minister of Public Works.

—The Norwegian Lutheran Church of America closes its first financial year on April 30. The treasurer has received the following amounts: For the General Treasury, $67,365.14; for Home Missions, $118,841.05; for Foreign Missions, $176,161.42; for charities, $74,541.81. There still remain to be collected before May 1 for the General Treasury, $62,914.86; for Home Missions, $16,158.95; for Foreign Missions, $64,172.58.

—It may interest some of our readers to know that in our military camps there is a study of the Bible going on today that is little less than amazing. Think of figures like the following: Camp Zachary Taylor, 183 Bible classes with a membership of 3,825; Camp Jackson, 90 classes, membership, 4,128; Camp Grant, 132 classes, membership, 4,277; Camp Custer, 125 classes, membership 3,082. These classes study the Bible nights after the day's work. The nation whose civilians and soldiers nourish their souls at the table where the world's great prophets and apostles have nourished theirs can know neither discouragement nor defeat.

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LUTHER LEAGUE TOPICS

(*Continued from page* 35.)

should be willing to serve two or more congregations contemporaneously. Witness the Methodist circuit riders of old, and the Apostles in their day. Fruitful fields have been saved to the Lutheran Church by the self-sacrificing efforts of neighboring pastors.

g. Lay readers should be trained for the work specified in paragraphs d and e. The Protestant Episcopal Church does it. It is a splendid work, requiring only average ability and much love for souls.

h. Standing (and working) committees of Luther Leagues might look after nearby or more remote unchurched communities where there is a nucleus of Lutherans. This would be a splendid practical work for the Luther League to undertake. It has been done with enthusiasm and success. These committees might systematically canvass neglected neighborhoods from door to door, projecting the establishment of Sunday schools and churches. They might begin meetings, and hold themselves responsible for the conducting, financing, equipping, officering of missions, reporting regularly to their Leagues, and creating a widening and deepening interest in their own congregation and in others. This would be an effective answer to a frequently heard question: What practical work is the Luther League doing?

Fundamental to this whole topic is the great question of Church loyalty. If our people are taught fidelity and consecration, not only in Sunday school, catechetical class, Luther League, and Church, but from their earliest childhood at home, there will really not be much of a question about the Church tramp. Wherever the devoted Lutheran goes, he carries his religion with him. If he does not find a Lutheran church in his new neighborhood, he sets to work and builds one.

Bible References.

Acts 13:2, 3; Mark 13:10; Luke 24:47-48; I Chron. 16:23, 24; Ps. 96:3; Isa. 43:6, 7; I Cor. 16:9; Luke 19:10; Rom. 15:20, 21.

Luther League Topics

CANADIAN SUPPLEMENT

Dominion Day, July 1

HINTS FOR THE LEADER.

Have display of Canadian flags and twigs with maple leaves. Use Psalm 100. Have an address or reading on Canadian confederation or some kindred topic. Open with "O Canada" and close with "God Save Our Native Land" and "God Save the King." (Topic reviewed by Rev. N. Willison.)

THE TOPIC.

A National Day.—Many people blessed with good government can look back to some day in their history when they first felt the throbbing life of free nationhood. Such a day becomes a national birthday and an occasion of rejoicing to all loyal citizens. Canada's day is "Dominion Day," celebrated on July 1st. On that date in 1867 a union of the provinces of Canada had been successfully consummated and the greatest of Britain's colonies became an autonomous state within the British Empire. "Four nations welded into one, with long historic past, have found, in these our western wilds, one common life at last."

Canada.—Canada, as she now is, comprises nine provinces and two territories. She is larger than the United States; as large as thirty United Kingdoms and eighteen Germanys; almost as large as all Europe. She contains one-third of the area of the British Empire. All her territory is within the North Temperate and Arctic Zones, some of it not even explored. Her resources of field and forest, mine and sea are untold and her climate is healthful. She is a country of promise—the last "promised land" of the West.

Constitution.—The British North America Act of 1867 combines elements of both British and United States Constitutions. The provinces are united into one dominion with the seat of Federal Government at Ottawa. The British Crown is represented by a Governor-General appointed for five years by the British Government. There are two houses of Parliament—a Senate, whose members are appointed for life by the Governor-General-in-Council, and the Commons, whose members (at present numbering 241) are elected for five years by the people. Each province has its own legislature and exercises control, within its own boundaries, of matters of purely provincial concern. The Federal Government controls all matters not specially referred to the provinces. Self-government, as far as consistent with good order, is the foundation principle of our Constitution. Canadians are a free and self-determining people, guided chiefly by the claims of the moral righteousness of Christianity. With the granting of the franchise to women all our people may share directly in the making and enforcing of our laws.

Destiny.—Truly our times are in God's hand and our destiny as a nation has not been revealed to us. We have the material elements that can make for greatness—vast territories, boundless resources, healthful climate, natural facilities for transportation. We have institutions necessary to economic, cultural and political greatness. We have youth. We are a new country. It has been said that the twentieth century belongs to Canada and will, if the world stands, see her a mighty nation of many millions of people. Every Canadian Luther Leaguer has, in a far greater degree, the privileges that confronted Lot when Abraham offered him a choice of pasturage. As inhabitants of a new country we must also face temptations to worldliness peculiarly strong; and unhappy, in spite of all our advantages, will be our future if like Lot we pitch our tents toward Sodom. Only righteousness before God exalteth a nation. Our Church life must keep pace with our other activities, for the true faith in Jesus Christ means more to our welfare than all else.

—•—

Tenth Sunday after Trinity. August 4, 1918.

JONAH THE FOREIGN MISSIONARY

(Missionary)

Jonah 3:1-10

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

Monday—Morning, Gal. 2:2-24; evening, I Kings 9:1-28.

Tuesday—Morning, Gal. 3:1-14; evening, I Kings 10:1-29.

Wednesday—Morning, Gal. 4:8-20; evening, I Kings 11:1-43.

Thursday—Morning, Gal. 5:1-15; evening, I Kings 12:1-33.

Friday—Morning, Gal. 6:11-18; evening, I Kings 13:1-34.

Saturday—Morning, Eph. 6:1-9; evening, I Kings 14:1-31.

HINTS FOR LEADERS.

Use the opening service as outlined in Hymnal. Ask those who offer the petitions to pray by name for our missionaries on the foreign fields.

Chapter II of Elsie Singmaster Lewar's "The Story of Lutheran Missions" will provide excellent material for this topic.

Solo, "Coming, Coming, Yes They Are."

Illustrate your remarks with pictures of our missionaries and maps of their fields of labor.

Paper, "The Lutheran Church a Pioneer in Foreign Missionary Endeavor."

In the presentation of this topic enlist the co-

The Luther League Topics, complete lessons (of which the above are outlines and review) in 32-page pamphlet covering three months can be supplied at rates given on page 24 by LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW, 318-326 West 39th Street, New York City.

operation of the members of your missionary organizations.

Suggested hymns, 8, 94, 241, 219, 32.

"He is counting on you,
On a love that will share
In His burden of prayer,
For the souls He has bought
With His life blood: and sought
Through His sorrow and pain
To win Home yet again.
He is counting on you,
If you fail Him, what then?
"He is counting on you,
Oh! the wonder and grace,
To look Christ in the face
And not be ashamed.
For you gave what He claimed,
And you laid down your *all*
For His sake at His call.
He had counted on you,
And you failed not—*what then?*"

"The restless millions wait
The light, whose dawning
Maketh all things new,
Christ also waits:
But men are slow and late.
Have we done what we could?
Have I? Have you?"

(Topic reviewed by Rev. Sanford N. Carpenter.)

The Lesson.

The story of Jonah is at times questioned. Those who stop to cavil at the facts of the life of Jonah miss the great and grand lesson it is intended to teach. The book sets forth in concrete terms what God thinks about foreign missions as well as His manner of dealing with the missionaries whom He sends forth into the field.

The Field.

Jonah was sent to "an exceeding great city." In it were not less than 120,000 infants and much wealth. Nineveh was 570 miles northeast of Jerusalem. It was the great and ancient capital of old Assyria; rich, powerful, and satisfied to go on in its sin. It needed the trumpet voice of the servant of God to bring it to a sense of its danger. This Nineveh is a picture of the field of missions. Jesus describes it fully and powerfully: "The field is the world." Only five words! But they tell of the whole race of men, from the dawn of time to the end of the world! There are about one billion heathen in the world. If these were drawn up after the manner of an army on parade, twenty deep and sixteen feet apart, it would make a procession 150,000 miles long, reaching six times around the world! It would require seven years for the vast procession to pass any given point!

The field for me is my opportunity. The world of opportunity is near. A young man called on his pastor and offered himself for the foreign field, asking at the same time, what preparation he should make. The pastor discovered, upon inquiry, that two brothers and the father of the young man's family were unconverted. The young man had never thought that he should speak to them. "Go home, then," said the pastor, "and speak to your own first." The near duty is the best preparation for the far. Of course, in looking after those who are near, it is not right to forsake or neglect those who are afar off and who have not the same opportunity to hear the Gospel as the unconverted at home.

The Man.

We look at the character of the man because it is through man as an instrument that God will save the world. Jonah was at first *an unwilling messenger.* He fled to Tarshish, and God overtook and chastised him by means of the storm. So, in our indifference, not to say opposition, to the commands of Christ, we often stand in our own light until God sends upon us some visitation as a reminder of our neglect. Maybe the present world cataclysm is some such messenger of God to His people. To every Christian there should come the same conviction which was the feeling of Paul: "Woe is me if I preach not the Gospel."

Jonah was an ordinary man. See him in childish petulance because a gourd over his head withered. Note his grumbling and dissatisfaction because God spared the great city. But, even so, it is by ordinary men that God does His mighty work of preaching the Gospel to the world. We need not be models of perfection and skill to serve the Lord or to preach His Word. If that were so, there would be no preaching. Such is the power of God, that He uses and transforms the offerings we bring; that is, body and soul and sordid treasures of earth, that they become the very messengers of the eternal God.

But *Jonah was a consecrated man.* After God had passed him through the school of humility and adversity, he came forth willing to carry out the will of God. The principal fact is that he did as God bade him. The chief point of interest in our own lives is the result. Do we go at the orders of God? This willingness and obedience is the sum and substance of consecration.

The Man's Message.

The man's message must have sounded queer in the city of Nineveh. "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be destroyed." *It was a foolish word.* The children on the street doubtless called him a crank, and the multitude perhaps tried to mob him. No wonder he hesitated to bring such a message.

But, *Jonah's message was God's word.* It was, "the preaching that *I* bid thee." What

power and glory it gives to our message to know and feel that this which we preach is the very Word of the great God!

Jonah's word was *a powerful and truthful word.* It came with the power and vigor of the eternal Spirit of God. In these days, when we are sorely tempted to waste our energies in preparing the machinery of Christian work, it is well to recall this lesson. Let us not forsake the Word and prayer for organization and machinery, be they ever so good and useful. If we have any criticism for the Church of today, it is that she uses the scabbard too much and the "Sword of the Spirit" too little.

The Result of the Preaching.

It is well to look to the result of the missionary's effort and take courage. The first result was attention, then concern, and finally consternation and repentance. This should be the usual result in the case where the Word is preached "straight from the shoulder."

The best part of the result is the fact that the whole city of Nineveh received forgiveness and was reconciled to God. This is the crown and glory of all Christian work. Jonah did the preaching, but *God spared Nineveh.* "So, then, neither he that planteth is anything, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase" (I Cor. 3:7).

It is not the good fortune of every preacher to be the instrument in the conversion of a whole city. Ours it is to labor, while God takes care of the results. Duty is ours; results are with God.

Bible References.

Acts 18:38; Daniel 3:16-18; II Kings 5:3; Mark 5:20; Luke 2:17; Luke 17:15, 23:47; John 1:41, 42, 46; Acts 4:36, 37; Mark 3:14, 6:7; Mark 6:12; Acts 15:40, 16:3.

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Eleventh Sunday after Trinity. August 11, 1918.

MUHLENBERG AND THE FIRST SYNOD IN AMERICA

(Historical—August 14-15, 1748, 170th Anniversary)

Acts 20:17-27.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

Monday—Morning, Eph. 6:18-24; evening, I Kings 16:29, 17:24.
Tuesday—Morning, Phil. 1:12, 2:4; evening, I Kings 18:1-46.
Wednesday—Morning, Phil. 2:19-30; evening, I Kings 19:1-21.
Thursday—Morning, Phil. 3:1-11; evening, I Kings 21:1-29.
Friday—Morning, Phil. 4:1-3; evening, I Kings 22:51, II Kings 1:17.
Saturday—Morning, Phil. 4:8-23; evening, II Kings 2:1-25.

HINTS FOR LEADERS.

Hymns 142, 216.
Psalm 122, read responsively. Gloria Patri.
Hymn 180.
Scripture lesson read by the leader.
Prayer: Collect "For the Church," Hymnal, p. ix.
Hymn 100.
Discussion of topic by the leader.
Several papers on Muhlenberg and the beginning of the Lutheran Church in America and the organization of the first synod.
Silent prayer, all standing, closing with the Lord's Prayer.
Hymn 204.
Announcements.
Doxology and benediction by the pastor.
(Topic reviewed by Rev. William K. Frick, D. D.)

The primitive Church had a very simple organization. Each congregation had an elder, or pastor. Over all stood the Apostles. At Miletus Paul convened the elders of Ephesus for warning and encouragement. The New Testament left the Church free to develop those forms of organization best adapted to the times and land.

In America the Lutheran churches are grouped into Synods, and these in turn into General Bodies, now, thank God, growing fewer and fewer but stronger and more efficient. We can look back over the immense stretch of 170 years to the organization of the first Synod in America—the Ministerium of Pennsylvania, now a local, though immense, body; then a small, but really a General, or National Body.

1. *The Weakness and Confusion Preceding Its Organization.* Lutheran immigration belongs to colonial times. Church and State paralleled each other. In both we find feeble beginnings, gradual growth, and European supervision and neglect, with consequent distraction and confusion in America. Three streams of Lutheran immigration brought the Dutch to New York, the Swedes to Delaware and Pennsylvania, and the Germans to the whole Atlantic coast from New York to Savannah, and especially to Pennsylvania. The Dutch churches had a precarious existence, and lost their identity before the Revolution. The Swedes, never very numerous, were held intact under their Provosts (subbishops), sent out by the mother Church of Sweden, an arrangement which ceased at the Revolution, the churches gradually dropping into the Episcopalian fold.

The Germans, however, came over in ever-increasing waves of shepherdless Lutherans. Renegade schoolmasters, clerical tramps, and overburdened pastors account for the weakness and distraction of the feeble and scattered churches, in Pennsylvania and adjacent colonies, to which God directed the steps of Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, the "Patriarch of American Lutheranism." Arriving in Philadelphia in 1742, as pastor of churches at Philadel-

phia, The Trappe and The Swamp, he soon found himself besought for aid and counsel by churches in his own and adjacent colonies. His peculiar gift of organization was shown first in adjusting congregational difficulties and setting over them schoolmasters and pastors secured in response to his earnest and pitiful appeals from the Halle Institutions and Fathers in Germany. These experiences led, already in 1744, to an attempt to unite the Swedes and Germans in one organization. It failed.

2. *Circumstances Leading to the Organization.* In 1748, twenty-eight years before the Declaration of Independence, The United Ministers, as the Muhlenberg group is called, met from time to time in an informal way. The dedication of St. Michael's Church, Philadelphia, and the necessity for ordaining schoolmaster Kurtz (to be pastor of the Tulpehocken charge) afforded occasion for gathering together the representatives of all the churches whose pastors were on friendly terms. They spent two days together. The tenth Sunday after Trinity, August 14, witnessed the dedication of St. Michael's, Philadelphia, with an English address of congratulation sent by the Swedish pastor of Wilmington, a German dedicatory address by Muhlenberg, a German sermon by Handschuh, and Holy Communion. In the afternoon John Nicholas Kurtz was ordained.

Next day the United Congregations held a meeting. Present: The Swedish Provost Sandin, Hartwig from New York, Muhlenberg, Brunnholtz, Handschuh, and Kurtz—six pastors; Mr. Koch, as trustee of the Swedish "Gloria Dei" Church; delegates from St. Michael's, Philadelphia (the whole Church Council); St. Michael's, Germantown; Providence, New Hanover; the two "filials" at Upper Milford, and "Saccum"; Tulpehocken and its "filial," Nordkiel; Lancaster and its "filial," Earlingstown (New Holland). Total, ten congregations, six ministers, and twenty-four lay delegates, in addition to the Philadelphia Church Council.

3. *Order of Business at Organizing Meeting—*

1. Hymn and prayer.

2. Muhlenberg occupied the chair by virtue of his call; Handschuh was appointed secretary.

3. Opening address by Muhlenberg.

4. General business. Report by lay delegates concerning the efficiency of the pastors. Reports on condition of parochial schools. New liturgy adopted. It contained Orders for Public Service (similar to our Common Service), Baptism, Proclaiming the Banns, Confession, and Holy Communion.

5. Congratulatory addresses by Hartwig and Sandin (advisory members only, as they did not sign the Minutes).

6. After a hymn, adjourned to meet in Lancaster in 1749.

There was no formal constitution, but Muhlenberg was the leading and uniting spirit. For several years there seem to have been no meetings, but in 1760, under the spur of the newly arrived Swedish Provost Wrangel, meetings were resumed. The Minutes of the 170th meeting of this strongest and most numerous local Synod cover 356 pages, and report 411 ministers, 579 congregations, 161,486 confirmed members, and $1,088,121 raised by congregations during the year.

All American Lutherans salute the Mother Synod: Long may she live.

References.

Dr. W. J. Mann's monumental work, "Life and Times of Muhlenberg"; Frick's 200 page "Henry Melchior Muhlenberg," complete and chronological.

Among her devoted sons have been some of the strongest theologians, most distinguished preachers, finest liturgical scholars, and most successful missionary leaders of our American Church. In her the spirit of Muhlenberg lives and triumphs.

Bible References.

Matt. 28:19; Mark 16:15; Isa. 66:19; Luke 24:46, 47; Gal. 1:15, 16; Acts 13:2; Rom. 10:14, 15; Luke 10:2; Acts 4:19, 20; Rom. 1:13-15; I Cor. 9:16; Gal. 2:9; Eph. 6:18, 19; Col. 4:3.

Questions.

1. How does the New Testament treat the matter of Church organization?

2. How are the American Lutheran Churches organized?

3. When, where, and by whom was the first Synod organized?

4. Rehearse the story of the feeble beginnings.

5. Especially describe the German beginnings.

6. What led to the convening of the Muhlenberg group of pastors?

7. What took place on August 14, 1748?

8. What pastors and delegates were present at the meeting?

9. What order of business was followed at the organization?

10. What has come of this feeble beginning?

11. Where can one read more about all this?

Twelfth Sunday
after Trinity. August 18, 1918.

A PERSONAL CALL

I Sam. 3:1-10.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

Monday—Morning, Col. 2:1-23; evening, II Kings 4:1-44.
Tuesday—Morning, Col. 3:18, 4:18; evening, II Kings 5:1-27.
Wednesday—Morning, I Thess. 1:1-10; evening, II Kings 6:1-23.
Thursday—Morning, I Thess. 2:1-20; evening, II Kings 6:24, 7:20.
Friday—Morning, I Thess. 3:1-13; evening, II Kings 8:1-15.
Saturday—Morning, I Thess. 4:8-12; evening, II Kings 9:1-37.

HINTS FOR LEADERS.

Hymn 184.
Make this meeting just as spirited as possible.
Read the Scripture Lesson and follow it with the Lord's Prayer.
Hymn 166.
Have the discussion of the topic presented.
Ask some member to select from the life of Luther evidences of God's call to him, and present them in a short talk.
Ask the pastor to tell of instances he may have known where God calls today as surely as he did in Samuel's time.
Hymn 153.
Have the last ten minutes for a prayer service. Have as many as possible prepare to offer prayer if it be no more than a sentence.
Close with Hymn 178, and the benediction.
(Topic reviewed by Rev. T. Shannon Brown.)

Samuel was a son of devout parents, his father a priest, and his mother consecrated him to the Lord before his birth. And did not this early consecration have much to do with his later call and the work which he accomplished? When Samuel ministered was a time of great moral and spiritual darkness. The sons of Eli had become degenerate, wickedly misusing their sacred office. Their father, while a devout man, had only in a mild way reproved them, and he, too, must suffer because of their evil deeds.

I. The silence of God. "The word of the Lord was precious in those days; there was no open vision." That is, the word of God came seldom at such a time, and there was no proper person chosen as yet of God to be His prophet to declare His will. Though the office was an essential condition for the spiritual life of Israel, it had not yet been established as a settled ordinance.

But at last God's long silence was broken, and His voice was heard in one of the rooms of the sanctuary when the youthful Samuel was sleeping. Nor was it simply a voice, but the Lord God Himself came and stood before him, though Samuel did not see Him. It was doubtless the pre-incarnate Christ, the eternal Word Himself who stood before him.

II. A personal call. In the silence and slumbers of the night, "ere the lamp of God went out" that is, toward the morning, the Lord called Samuel. Samuel mistook the voice for that of Eli calling him, as he was doubtless wont to do.

And there are young people today who mistake God's call for that of mere men, especially if He calls them to be a prophet or teacher, a minister, it is nobody but their pastor speaking to them. He speaks to them through His Word and Sacraments, through the Church, but it is only the voice of the preacher calling them, they imagine, and give no heed.

God calls indirectly through sickness, bereavement and sorrow, but they treat the call with stoical indifference, as adverse circumstances through which all must pass. "God speaketh once, yea twice, but man perceiveth it not." (Job 33:14.)

III. A personal response. Although Samuel mistook the Lord's voice for that of Eli, he at once answered. Three times he ran to Eli in obedience to the call, promptly and uncomplainingly.

Eli told him that it was the Lord's voice, and when the Lord called again, he said, "Speak, for thy servant heareth."

1. Samuel's attitude toward the Lord showed that he was willing to hear His word.

God speaks to you today, through the law and through the Gospel. Do you have the humble, ready spirit of Samuel to listen to His voice rather than to the siren calls of the world, the flesh, and the devil?

He speaks to you through the events and circumstances of life, through the terrible war that is raging, through the clouds and darkness which are around and about Him, and He would have you to hear His voice and instruction amid all its din and confusion.

2. Samuel's attitude to the call was shown in his readiness to obey God's word. "Thy servant heareth." Whatever God directed him to do, even though His commands may have been hard to carry out, he was ready to do. Like St. Paul he could say, "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?"

They who are faithful to the Lord in a narrow, humble sphere are the ones whom He calls to higher service. We cannot expect to be called to the higher if we are not faithful in the lower. Every work to which God calls us in this day and time requires loyal, heroic service.

Bible References.

Mark 1:15; II Cor. 7:10; II Tim. 1:9; II Cor. 5:20-21; Rom. 5:6-8; II Peter 3:9; John 16:8, 15:26; Eph. 4:18, 2:4, 5; I John 2:2.

Thirteenth Sunday
after Trinity. August 25, 1918.

SAVING MIGRATING LUTHERANS

Jer. 33:9-14.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS.

Monday—Morning, I Thess. 5:12-28; evening, II Kings 10:1-36.

Tuesday—Morning, I Tim. 1:1-20; evening, II Chron. 22:1-12.

Wednesday—Morning, I Tim. 2:1-15; evening, II Chron. 23:1-21.

Thursday—Morning, I Tim. 3:1-16; evening, II Chron. 24:1-27.

Friday—Morning, I Tim. 4:1-16; evening, II Kings 14:1-29.

Saturday—Morning, I Tim. 5:1-25; evening, II Kings 15:1-38.

HINTS FOR LEADERS.

Hymn. Psalm 67 (read responsively). Gloria Patri.

Prayer—use collect "Grace to Do God's Will."

Scripture Lesson—Jeremiah 33:9-14 (read by leader).

Hymn.

Review the topic as presented in the LUTHER LEAGUE REVIEW and the *Topics*.

Solo, "From Every Stormy Wind That Blows." (L. L. Hymnal 158.)

Résumé of "The Duty of American Church to Immigrant People," found in the *Lutheran Woman's Work*, September, 1913, by the President of the Missionary Society.

Recitation, "Others." Remarks by pastor.

Offertory. Offering. Announcements. Closing hymn. Lord's Prayer (chanted).

Suggested hymns, 214, 218, 216.

"OTHERS."

Lord help me live from day to day
In such a self-forgetful way
That even when I kneel to pray
My prayer shall be for others.

Help me in all the work I do
To ever be sincere and true,
And know that all I'd do for you
Must needs be done for others.

Let "Self" be crucified and slain
And buried deep; and all in vain
May efforts be to rise again,
Unless to live for others.

And when my work on earth is done
And my new work in heaven's begun,
May I forget the crown I've won,
While thinking still of others.

Others, Lord, yes, others,
Let this my motto be:
Help me to live for others,
That I may live like Thee.

(Topic reviewed by Rev. George C. Loos.)

This timely topic does not refer to immigrants, for the coming of our people from Europe has practically ended, especially since the Great War. The topic refers to the shifting of populations and individuals from one place of residence to another. In some of its aspects this subject may be regarded as an Inner Mission and Social Service question.

I. *In the fluctuating and unsettled conditions of modern life, Lutherans, as well as others, scatter and migrate, frequently out of Church connection.*

a. *Why?* Because when they are uprooted from the soil of their home church, in many, many cases they fail to unite with a Lutheran Church in their new neighborhood. There are four general reasons for this:

1. Indifference.

2. A feeling of strangeness.

3. Unequal distribution of churches. In one prominent New York town there are Lutheran Churches on three of the four corners of two intersecting streets. Other parts of that town are insufficiently churched. Some towns as large as that have no Lutheran congregation at all.

4. Sometimes Lutheran populations increase faster than the Church has men and money to follow with.

b. *Where?*

Throughout the United States there are nearly five million Lutherans outside of Church connection, and only two and a half million connected, a proportion of two to one. The Lutheran Church has thus probably the largest body of floaters in the country. In New York City there are 400,000 Lutherans unconnected, and only 65,000 in the Lutheran Church. In Philadelphia there are 100,000 Lutherans outside of the Church, and about 45,000 within it.

II. *What can be done to reach them?*

a. There are needed more pioneer field officers to seek them. Local pastors or missionaries attached to a congregation are not what is here meant, but a peripatetic or wandering pastor, gathering them into groups and later giving them in charge of a permanent pastor.

b. More men for the ministry and to fill the positions of these field officers. The war is taking our ministers for chaplains and our young men in college and seminary for the army ranks. Aging ministers are dying off. Who will take the places of all these?

c. More Home Mission contributions, not only to send the missionaries and pastors and field officers, but to build sorely needed churches in strategic places. We are giving neither according to the needs of the cause nor in proportion to our own blessings.

d. Lutheran families should organize Lutheran Sunday schools if there are none in their neighborhoods. This has been often done with the most blessed results. It requires no genius to do it—merely consecration and intelligence.

e. Lutheran churches can be and have been organized under conditions as stated in the foregoing paragraph. Some of our largest and most influential churches are the result of such lay activity. A consecrated household has been known to do remarkable things in this direction.

f. For the time being, at least, pastors

(*Continued on page* 29.)

standing shall attain unto wise counsels." We are wise only when we are willing to heed advice, and when we begin to understand that words of admonition are for our benefit.

Sometimes the wrong path will be made very attractive by those who are walking therein. We will be tempted by the so-called fun and sport, but if we yield, we will be caught in the mire of sin.

The story is told of a boy who, one sunny afternoon, tired of school, decided to play truant. He followed a strange but attractive path, gathering wild flowers, chasing butterflies and what glorious fun he had! Finally, however, the path became narrow and walking difficult, for the ground was soft and wet. He walked on, hoping for firmer footing, but landed over his shoes in what had once been a pigsty. With great difficulty he retraced his steps and arrived home, soiled but repentant.

If we choose the wrong path or hobnob with the wrong companions, we may change our ways and shun the evil, but we will never be as clean as when we started out. The safest way is to be sure who our friends are and choose only those who will arouse the very best element in our lives.

First of all, choose for your daily companion the very best Friend a boy or girl ever had or ever can have—a Friend who loved you enough to die for you and in Whom you can confide without danger of betrayal; a Friend Whose standard you will always be proud to follow and will never be put to shame.

Hints for Leader—Have a boy tell of the friendship of David and Jonathan. Have the boys and girls tell some of the qualities desirable in a chum.

Poster—Pictures of children at play, at top of card "Our Chums," at bottom notice of meeting.

Invitations—Small cards on which print "Bring your chums, one and all, to our Junior League meeting, on ——, at ——."

Direct the children's reading. Arrange a "Story Book Trip," in which the children visit different sections of our land and other countries by reading books about those places.

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SOUTH DAKOTA CONVENTION

(*Continued from page* 19.)

gave us the convention sermon from the text, "But thanks be to God, who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!" It was a most appropriate and eloquent sermon. At this service the Augustana College Choir sang. Rev. Jacobson said, "Victory, oh, for the zeal and fervor of Paul, valiant soldier was he—blessed we, if we can say with him, 'Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown.' Let us in this critical time, stand up for our Church, which is tried as by fire, and it must be proven true. This is a practical age. Oh, all too often we ask—Does it pay? When God calls us let us not be worldly, not think of self. Jesus says, 'He who finds his life shall lose it, but he who loses his life for My sake shall find it.' When the call of the Church comes, answer—Here am I, send me."

Sunday afternoon we had a grand patriotic service held at the College Auditorium, which seats 1,200 people. It was crowded, people standing both in the aisles and in the galleries. We had two strong addresses, those of Camp Pastor Rev. Joseph Green and Rev. Luther M. Kuhns. Appropriate music was rendered by the local and Augustana College choirs.

The last session of the convention was the Rally Meeting. Preceding the address, the Augustana College Choir gave a half-hour sacred concert which was thoroughly enjoyed by the large audience filling the church. A masterly sermon was delivered by Prof. Martin Hegland, Ph.D., president of Waldorf College. Dr. Hegland said, "Let us preach, teach and sing the doctrines of God into the hearts of men and women. Greater to be an American than to be king of the mightiest empire on earth, but greater still to be a Christian. Great will be the day when our boys come home with victorious Old Glory, but greater still, yes, the greatest day, when the soldiers of Christ shall come home with victory out of the world, bearing aloft the standard of the cross, come home to receive the crown of victory."

After short closing remarks by Mr. Hodges, Rev. Kuhns, Thorvald Ditmandson, our new State President, and Rev. B. A. Benson, Mr. Larson announced that the convention was closed. After singing "God Bless Our Native Land," the benediction was pronounced. We bid our friends farewell and parted, with hopes of meeting again at the twenty-second annual State convention.

Truly we dwelt on the mountain tops throughout the convention. May God grant that we may all from strength to strength go on, wrestle and fight and pray. Tread all the powers of darkness down, and win the well-fought day.

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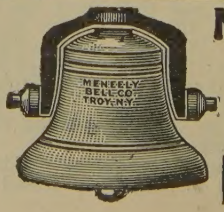

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